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Remodeling
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VOLUME XIX ■ NUMBER 1

features

on the cover



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FOR STORY, SEE PAGE 90.



Remodeling & Makeovers

VOLUME XIX ■ NUMBER 1







departments

resources

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giveaway


Autumn Leaf RoughCut
with an overgrout technique


THE MOST BELIEVABLE ARCHITECTURAL STONE VENEER IN THE WORLD™

{editor's note}



Green Is Good

It may not be easy being green, but it's definitely getting easier. And if you're planning to renovate your home, going green makes more economic sense than ever. Thanks to increasing demand for sustainable design, more and more building product manufacturers are creating affordable, eco-friendly alternatives to many of the toxic or unsustainable materials typically used for standard residential construction—so today you don't necessarily have to spend more to live in a healthy green home. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star and Water Sense programs have also made it easier to identify energy-efficient and water-saving appliances and fixtures that can help you conserve natural resources and rein in your utility bills at the same time. With energy expenses fluctuating, upgrading windows, insulation and heating or cooling systems can also make operating your home more affordable over time—and these features can add value to your home if you ever want to sell it, too. New tax credits boost the payback. In this issue, we've collected a wide range of locations—from kitchens and baths to entire houses—that prove green is not only good and smart, it's also beautiful. They also show that any investment in eco-friendly design can reward you with better health—and even a healthier bank account—over the long run.



—Jean Nayar, Editor

PHOTOGRAPHS: ABOVE, ERIK RANK; BELOW, JAMES R. SOLOMON HAIR AND MAKEUP: CHUCK JENSEN, FOR MARK EDWARD INC.

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{on the web}

Whether you're a first-time renovator or a seasoned veteran, making over a home is a major undertaking. We've talked to the experts to find ways to make the remodeling experience less challenging and more rewarding. From selecting a contractor to picking paint, at *womansday.com* you'll find insider tips to navigate the redesigning maze.



Classic Touch
One decorating shortcut: Update a room with classic silhouettes for a timeless, not trendy, new look.

PHOTOGRAPH: BRANDON BARRE

PRE-REMODEL POINTERS

You've heard about a nightmare remodel that cost heaps of money and went on forever—but don't let that stop you from turning your house into your dream home! Go to *womansday.com/remodel* for a guide to everything from creating a budget to working with contractors—all the tools you need to make your vision a reality.

DECORATING SHORTCUTS

Whether you're redoing a home office or choosing lighting for a dining room, check out *womansday.com/shortcuts* before you start your project. We've rounded up our best design advice, including helpful hints and tricks to get you through all of your decorating needs.

coming next



GARDENING & DECK DESIGN
On sale February 17

- 15 great new plants you should grow
- A lush cottage garden filled with flowers
- Low-water gardening tips
- Deck designs for every home



KITCHENS & BATHS
On sale March 3

- Smart kitchen storage solutions
- Baths for relaxing and rejuvenating
- Island designs for every kitchen
- Recharge your rooms with color

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Remodeling & Makeovers

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{nuts & bolts}

The latest products for your home

Written by **Cathy Nelson Price**

hail, caesar

CaesarStone, a popular architectural material used for countertops in the kitchen and bath, is made of crushed quartz, suspended in resin. Now CaesarStone is recycling remnants from its own fabrication process to make a terrazzo-like collection called Mosaici. Some styles get added sparkle from recycled glass. From $70 to $120 per square foot, installed. 877-978-2789; *caesarstoneus.com*.



double duty

Occupying no more wall space than a conventional single oven, this GE Profile 30-inch wide unit provides two separate convection ovens. You can bake a batch of cookies in the upper oven while roasting a 22-pound turkey below. $2,800. *ge.com*.



get a grip

Grab bars in the bath are a useful safety feature, but they can look a bit institutional. Good thing that Jaclo offers a variety of bars and handles with real style and flair. From $250 depending on size and model. *jaclo.com*.

twist and spout

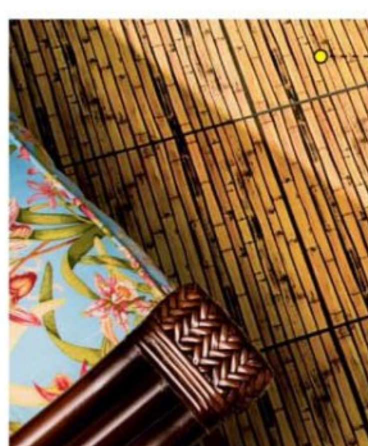
The anthropomorphic Karbon kitchen faucet looks like a critter from *Star Wars*, and offers an entirely new range of motion. The articulated faucet extends more than 13 inches, angles water flow in any direction and locks in position for hands-free scullery work. $990. *kohler.com*.





in the groove

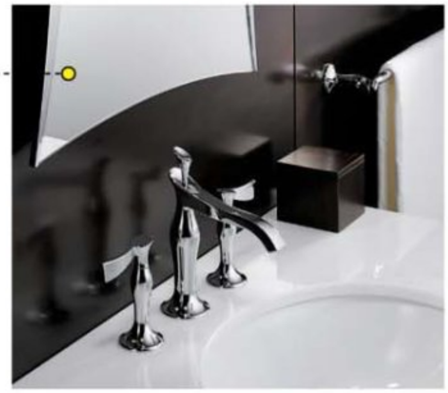
First cheese, now caulk. Caulk Singles are convenient "single servings" for quick fix-ups without the fuss of hauling out the caulking gun. Tear open, squeeze, apply and toss. In white or clear silicone or paintable acrylic. $2 to $3 per package. *gecaulksingles.com*.



bamboozled

This bamboo-look flooring is actually glazed ceramic tile, suitable for floors, walls or countertops, indoors or out. Imagine Tile offers trompe l'oeil designs that are digitally re-created from high-resolution photos. In 16- or 8-inch-square tiles, from $15 per square foot. 800-680-8453; *imaginetile.com*.

high-style, low-flow



Brizo's RSVP collection of bathroom fittings has fluid, elegant lines like curvaceous perfume bottles. You can select finials made of metal, blue glass or Swarovski crystal. The low-flow faucets are also EPA WaterSense certified. Available in nickel, bronze and chrome finishes. Faucet, $560. 877-345-2749; *brizo.com*.



clean and thrifty

Innovations at Electrolux yield front-loading laundry machines that use less water and electricity, but offer greater capacity and efficiency: Wash and dry a load in just 36 minutes. There are 22 wash settings (count 'em!) and a steam-dry option. In white, turquoise, silver and Mediterranean blue (shown). Washers from $1,200; dryers from $1,100. *electroluxappliances.com*.

durable charm



This energy-efficient, country cottage–style exterior door is made with a fiberglass cladding that stands up to weather and wear and tear. Offered in a variety of styles, colors and sizes, from $225; custom sizes available. 800-779-0561; *plastproinc.com*.



belt line

Add a fashionable touch to the bathroom. The Buckle Up collection includes knobs, pulls, towel bars and hooks and toilet-paper holders. In matte black, nickel or chrome. $9 to $98. 800-799-6755; *atlashomewares.com*.

perfect palette



To help you visualize how exterior colors and textures work together when choosing siding, shingles and trim, Crane's Smart Styles palettes are sorted by style: urban, rustic, Craftsman (Rugged Simplicity shown). Choose a palette, then order a sample kit to preview the actual products. $49. 800-366-8472; *exteriorportfolio.com*. ■

{news to use}

Written by **Ayn-Monique Tetreault-Rooney Klahre**

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE...

Are your fire-safety habits up to snuff? According to the National Fire Protection Association, a residential fire occurred every 76 seconds in the U.S. during 2007. Prevent a common mishap from turning into a major disaster by following these basic steps:

DETECT smoke and carbon monoxide by keeping an alarm in every room.

MAINTAIN alarms by changing the batteries every six months and testing them weekly.

REPLACE smoke alarms every 10 years and carbon monoxide alarms every five years.

KEEP fire extinguishers in trouble areas, such as the kitchen and garage.

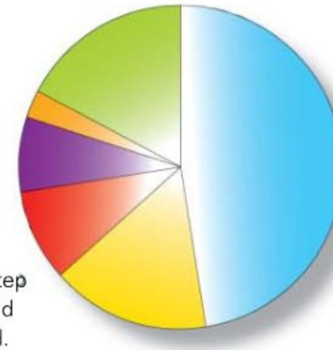
PLAN escape routes out of the house and practice using them with the whole family.



First Alert SA720CN Battery Operated Photoelectric Smoke Alarm with Escape Light, $27. 800-323-9005, *firstalert.com*.

Out with the Old

We all know that the first step in any makeover is to get rid of the things we don't need. But most of us have trouble tossing this old stuff. Why? Here's breakdown of our reasons, according to a survey by Kijiji.com, a free local classifieds Website:



- 47.5% May use it again
- 16% Sentimental reasons
- 9% No time to go through everything
- 7.5% Saving it for the kids
- 3% Waiting for the value to increase
- 17% Other

Room to GROW

The most efficient way to buy local and eat organic: Stake off a plot for a vegetable garden in your own yard. It's good for your body and your budget. First-time gardeners should ask their neighborhood nursery for plants that thrive in their area, and look for starter kits or foolproof packaging for a leg up. The bio-degradable pot holding the Bonnie Original tomato plant (shown here), for example, is placed directly into the soil. From $1.50, *bonnieplants.com* for retailers. ➤





time for action

If you've been dragging your heels on a green remodeling project, this is the year to do it. Last fall, Congress renewed a bill that extends a tax credit of up to $500 for energy-efficient home improvements made in 2009 to windows, doors, roofs, insulation, heating and cooling systems, and nonsolar water heaters. For a full list of qualifying improvements and more information, visit *energystar.gov* and click on "Tax Credits Under the Energy Bill."

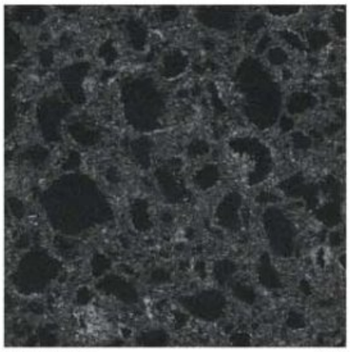
ILLUSTRATION: SHUTTERSTOCK

Color Expression[09]



Basalt Black 6185T





Black Rocks 4170

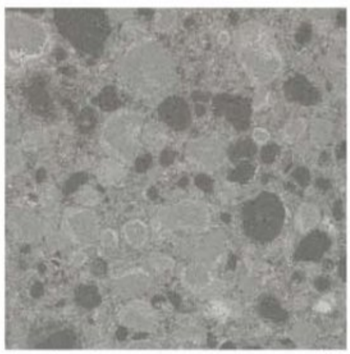




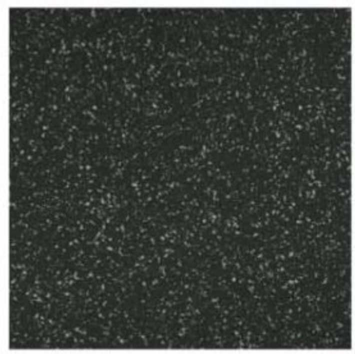


Smoky Ash 6140



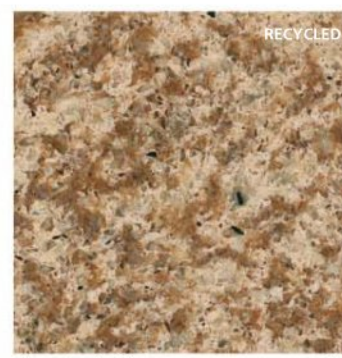


Dusty Stones 4040



Metallic Black 7185

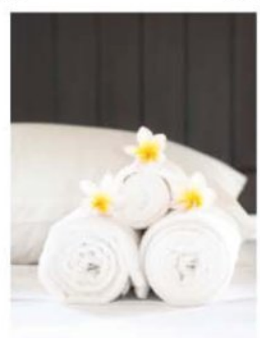




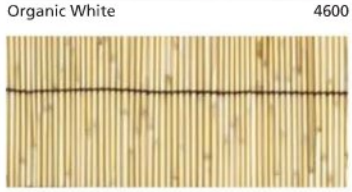
Chocolate Truffle 6350

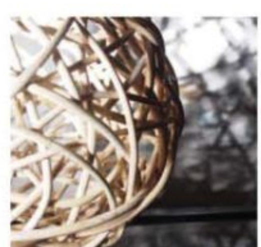


Organic White 4600



Buttermilk 4220







Introducing 8 New Expressive Colors

CaesarStone's unique ingenuity and ability to influence trends can be captured in a remarkable new lineup of surfaces that push the boundaries of creativity. The Color Expression '09 Collection offers an impressive recycled line, a new matte-hammered texture, and the first and only black metallic-accent surface — all covered for life by our **Lifetime* Warranty**.

To learn more about CaesarStone's Color Expression '09 Collection, please visit www.CaesarStoneUS.com/expression

caesarstone®
Quartz Surfaces

* Some restrictions apply. Copies of our Lifetime Warranty are available at authorized dealers. Learn more by visiting www.CaesarStoneUS.com or calling 877.978.2789.

PAS DE FUMES



Desperate to repaint your walls, even though it's not warm enough to keep the windows open? Visit *greenwisepaint.com* before you start your project for a listing of brands that offer low-VOC paints (like the ones shown here) that meet stringent criteria for performance as well as environmental standards. Besides eliminating the migraine-inducing smell of paint drying, they won't release harmful gases into your home—or the atmosphere. Elements Zero VOC paints, $35 to $40 per gallon. 800-225-1141, *californiapaints.com* for stores.



Faux Is a Go

Be extra careful if you're adding exotic hardwood flooring to your home: A 2008 amendment to the Lacey Act, the United States' oldest national wildlife protection statute, broadened its scope to include timber and wood products illegally harvested in foreign countries. That means that your beautiful new floors could be illegal. Use a reputable dealer who can document its chain of custody, or consider using wood-look flooring instead, like this Costa Rica Laminate from Shaw Flooring. $5.50 per square foot, *shawfloors.com*. ■

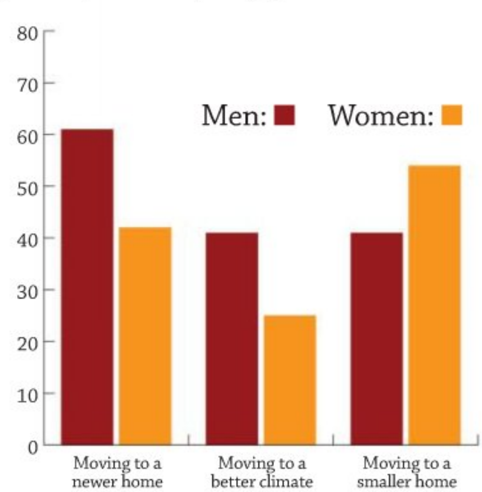
Lesson to Learn

Between 40 and 70 percent of people who own programmable thermostats don't use them properly. The best way to do it: Figure out your schedule—when you're home, at work and sleeping—then set your thermostat and leave it alone. Chris Spencer, a home comfort and energy expert with Lennox, recommends these settings:

	Winter	Summer
Rise and shine	70F	78F
Off to work	62F	85F
Home for dinner	70F	78F
Sweet dreams	62F	82F

New Place Like Home

A survey prepared for the AARP and the National Association of Home Builders found that 26 percent of baby-boomer generation households plan to move from their current home. Though they want to stay put as long as possible, here's why they plan to relocate:





No flowers.
No potpourri.
No knickknacks.
Only the bare essentials.
My bathroom was designed for my world.
The modern Icon™ faucet by Moen.® Designed for Life. Yours.
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Buy it for looks. Buy it for life.®
1-800-BUY-MOEN • www.moen.com
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{going green}

Switching to eco-friendly products is easier (and cheaper) than you think

Written by **Joy Manning**



ISABELLA SMITH MAISON BELLE HOUSEHOLD CLEANER FOR KITCHENS Completely natural and biodegradable, this is a kitchen cleaner that's safe around your food. $28, *beautyhabit.com*.

You probably have a cabinet full of cleaning supplies: bleach-laden scrubs and a gallon of ammonia, not to mention a collection of chemical-rich sprays and disposable dusters and wipes. You also know those fumes are bad for you and your family, and that a lot of those chemicals end up in our rivers and streams. Getting your house clean is not usually very green. But it can be, and it's easier than you think.

A few years ago, there weren't many earth-friendly cleaning products on the market, and even fewer that really worked. Danish product designer Isabella Smith couldn't find a line of environmentally sound cleaners that performed well, so she took it upon herself to create one. In 2005, her Maison Belle cleaning products were born. Her fully biodegradable household cleaner for the kitchen not only makes quick work of greasy stove tops and dirty floors but comes in style-conscious packaging made of recyclable PET plastic. In the past three years, Smith has seen demand for her products explode. "We're in 10 countries now and sales have increased by 500 percent," says Smith.

More people than ever are concerned about air quality and the environment, but even die-hard recyclers and hybrid car drivers are often reluctant to give up the harsh cleaners they've always used. Starre Vartan, founder of EcoChick.com and author of *The Eco Chick Guide to Life: How to Be Fabulously Green* (St. Martin's Griffin, 2008), believes we should embrace a new approach to familiar household chores. "First of all, we need to change our idea of what clean smells like," says Vartan. "A clean house doesn't smell like chemicals." Vartan is passionate about the elimination of these cleaners because they degrade our indoor air quality. "The EPA estimates that pollutants in the home are two to five times higher indoors than they are outdoors, even if you live in a city," she says.

Vartan acknowledges that green household cleaners can cost more than their conventional counterparts.

all-purpose surface cleaner

This formula from Starre Vartan is great for cleaning basic countertop dirt and cutting grime: Add a teaspoon of baking soda, 4 teaspoons of borax, a teaspoon of liquid castile soap and 4 cups of hot (but not boiling!) water to a 16- to 18-ounce spray bottle. Shake well to dissolve the sodas and soap into the water. Add a drop or two of orange, lavender, rosemary or other essential oil if you like scent.



ECOVER BATHROOM CLEANER This fresh-smelling cleaner kills soap scum without hurting the ecosystem. $5.50, Whole Foods.



MRS. MEYER'S CLEAN DAY SURFACE SCRUB This versatile scrub cleans stainless steel without a scratch and comes in four natural scents. $5, *mrsmeyers.com*.



BON AMI POLISHING CLEANSER This one has been around for over a century, and has always been green. $4, *drugstore.com*.



METHOD SMARTY DISH DISHWASHING DETERGENT These powerful dish-washing tablets get rid of baked-on food without phosphates or bleach. $6.50, *methodhome.com*.



SKOYCLOTH REUSABLE TOWELS These absorbent, reusable cleaning towels can greatly reduce your dependence on paper towels. $6, *skoycloth.com*.

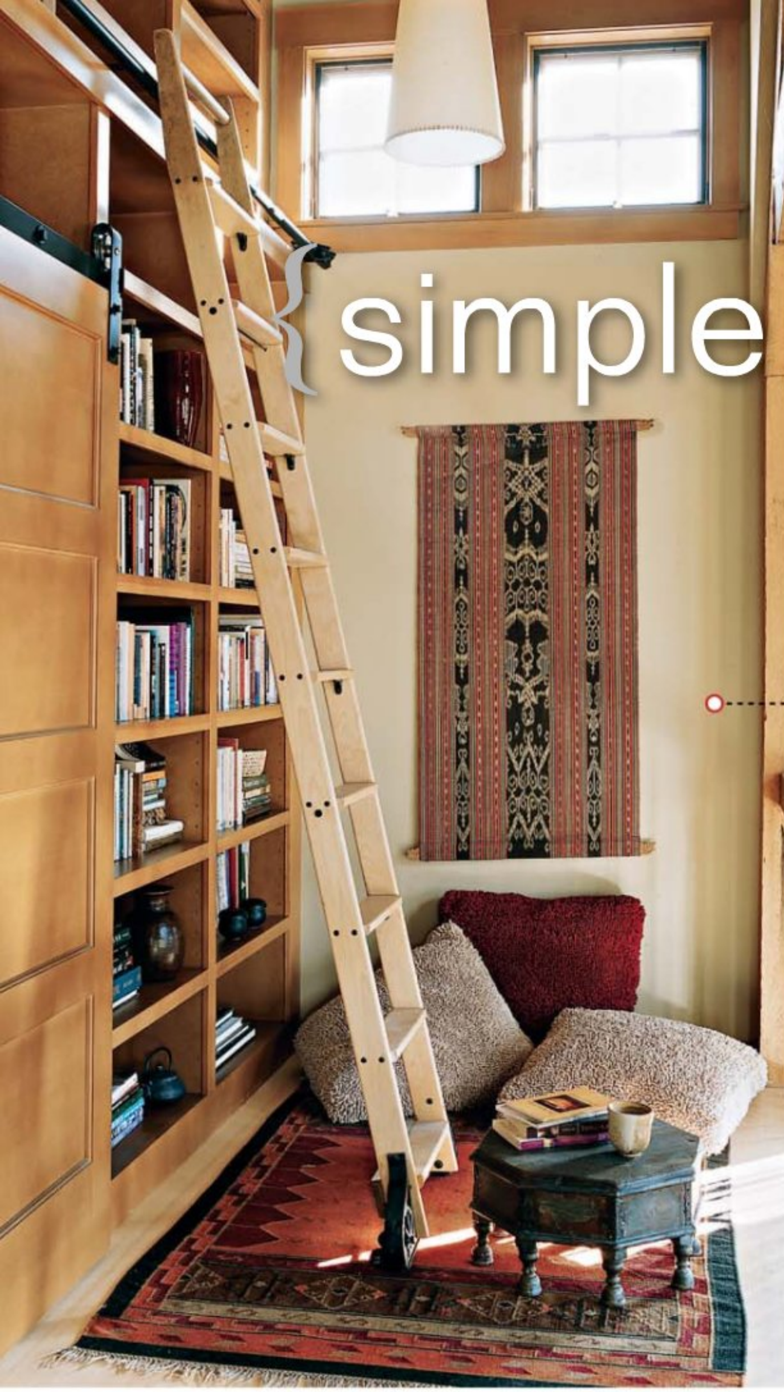
Mrs. Meyer's surface scrub, which Vartan names as her must-have product, costs $5 while the same amount of Ajax costs only $2.70. There is a middle ground according to Vartan. Clorox Greenworks line is made from 99 percent natural ingredients, but costs pennies (not dollars) more than its toxic counterparts. And it's available everywhere.

Vartan suggests offsetting the extra cost of one or two pricey products with homemade cleaners that cost next to nothing. She spends extra on the surface scrub and a toilet cleaner, because the bottle's shape helps get under the rim, but she makes her own glass cleaner, all-purpose cleaner and furniture polish. "Overall, I spend less than if I bought all conventional products," she says.

Once you've decided to make the switch, the supermarket cleaning aisle can be a minefield of misinformation. There's little regulation of the often vague or misleading claims manufacturers make on their bottles. Scott McDougal, president of TerraChoice, a company that certifies products with the official EcoLogo stamp of approval, recommends looking for either his EcoLogo seal or the Green Seal on product labels. "Both EcoLogo and Green Seal adhere to the same strict standards and are independently verified as environmentally sound," he says.

While finding a product that has one of these two seals will provide peace of mind, many products that are every bit as green don't carry an official seal. In fact some of the products that have been on the market the longest, like Bon Ami and Borax, have always been green because they don't contain harsh ingredients like bleach, antimicrobial agents or phosphates. When you see ingredients like hydrogen peroxide and sodium carbonate or sodium citrate listed as a product's main ingredient, it's a good bet that the product is a safer alternative. McDougal recommends educating yourself about the most common claims. "'All natural' means nothing. Plutonium is natural. That doesn't mean you want it in your home," he says. He suggests reading the labels carefully and choosing the one that has the most detailed information.

Remember, green cleaning goes beyond using safe, eco-friendly products. Be aware of excess packaging and disposable products. Try replacing paper towels and throw-away dusters with common-sense green alternatives. Vartan saves old cotton socks and uses them in place of paper towels or dusters. Washable microfiber cloths are another good alternative to many of the products we currently use and discard. With just a little effort and new perspective on the job, you can make your cleaning routine safer, cheaper and healthier for your family and the planet. ■



{simple solutions}

finding storage

Written by **Megan Fulweiler**

A place for everything: It's a nice idea, but who has the space? In fact, your home may be full of hidden storage possibilities—you just need to know where to look. Try some of our ideas for making the most of the room you have.

Clear Out Move everyday flatware into a handsome wooden box or a country crock to free up kitchen drawer space for less-frequently used tools and gadgets. Relocate larger utensils into wall-mounted baskets or bins. A magnetized strip fixed to the side of a cabinet holds knives or spice tins.

Climb the Walls Install floor-to-ceiling shelves for books or collectibles and make the most of a dead-end hallway. An inexpensive secondhand library ladder and some comfy floor pillows can turn it into a cozy destination.

Check Your Coat Mount a sturdy peg rack or a series of three-pronged hooks on the wall to get everyday jackets out of the closet. Utilize the vacated space for seasonal gear.

Role Play Turn yesterday's bureau into an entry organizer. Fit the large drawers with dividers and create bins to hold mittens, hats and running shoes. Use smaller top drawers for on-the-go essentials: car keys, dog leashes and flashlights.

Cross Purposes Run shelves across a window or pass-through and display the pretty glassware that's crowding your cabinets.

Fit In Gain more shelf space by decanting the contents of bulky boxes—cereal, pasta, crackers—into uniform lidded containers. Corral smaller supplies in baskets to keep them from spreading. Sodas and bottled water can slide in and stack sidewise on a shelf. Pop staples such as onions and potatoes into bins along the floor.

Take the Stairs The space under a staircase can easily be converted to a small closet. Even left open, it's the ideal spot to add built-in shelves or park a chest or trunk.

PHOTOGRAPHS: EMILY MINTON REDFIELD



Sleep Tight Built-in drawers and cabinets around a platform bed store extra bedding or clothes—and leave no room for dust bunnies!

Look Up Don't forget to make use of the top of the kitchen cabinets. This often forgotten real estate is a super place for holiday dishes and oversize platters. For a livelier statement, parade your collectibles. Colorful pitchers, bowls and cookie jars will boost your decor and stay safely out of reach.

Boxing Rules Maximize space in a skinny armoire or tall cupboard with a host of stacking storage boxes. Label the fronts—CDs, socks, gift wrapping—to keep track of what's what.

Do Double Duty Keep an eye out for multipurpose furniture. Pieces with inner storage like lift-top tables, ottomans and benches come in all styles and are great keepers for everything from movies and toys to extra blankets. Even a coffee table with a lower shelf is terrific for reigning in magazines and newspapers.

Enjoy the View Build a cedar-lined storage bench into a bay window and create extra seating and a clever place to stash off-season wool clothes and sweaters.

Hang 'em High Towels on hooks take less space than on horizontal bars—good to know when a bath is shared by more than two people.

It's Curtains Choose a shower curtain with pockets to hold toiletries and sponges.

Door Store Take control of the inside of closet doors. Mount a peg rack for neckties and belts. A hanging vinyl shoe bag holds extra shoes or small accessories like scarves and socks.

Make the Bed Substitute shelves for a headboard. Radio, clock, mystery novels? All your must-haves can stay close at hand. ■

PHOTOGRAPH: ERIC ROTH

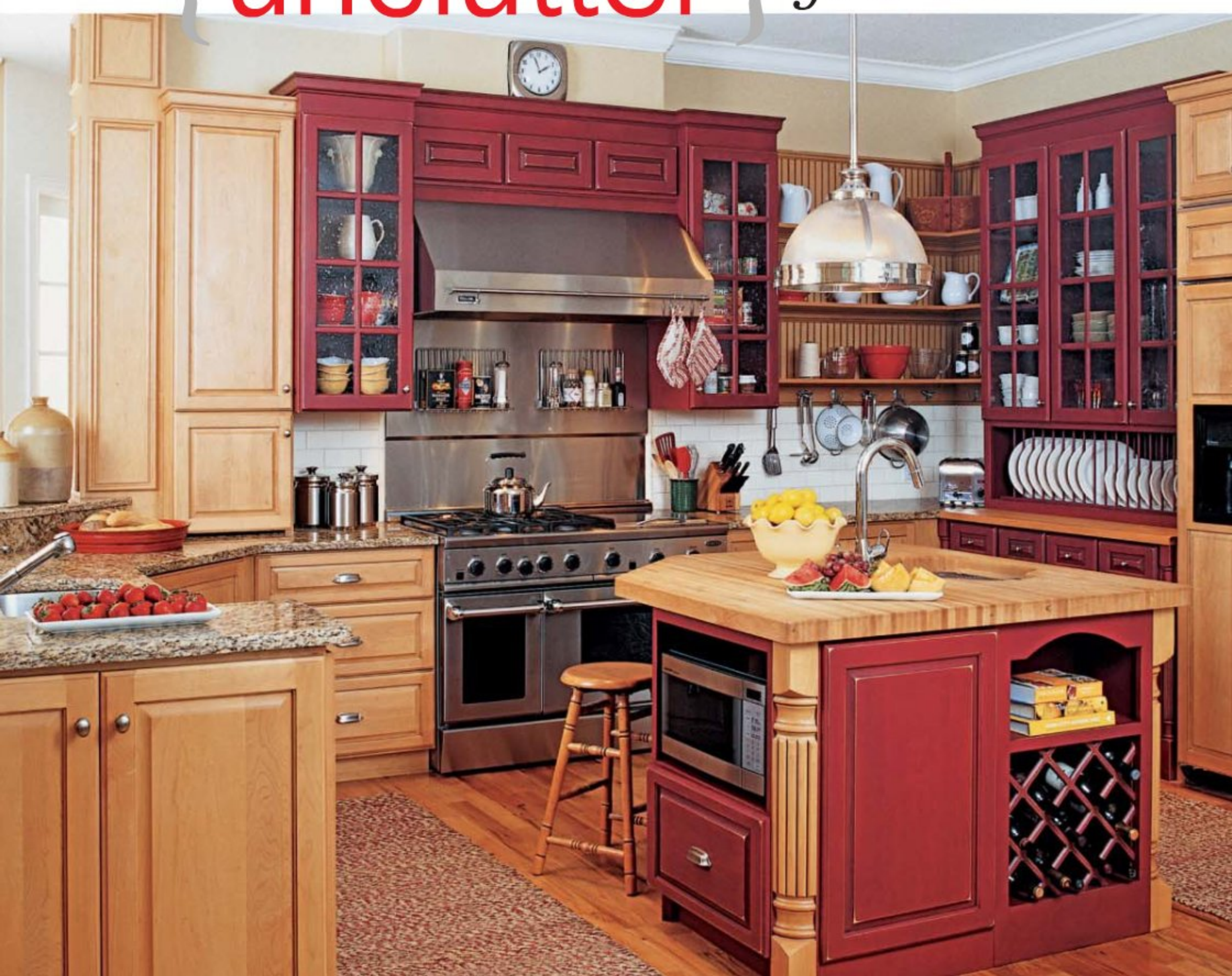
Written by **Mervyn Kaufman** Photographs by **Gridley & Graves**

The kitchen is the busiest area in the home and a magnet for clutter. But keeping it organized will allow it to truly hum with efficiency.

Start by giving the space a good cleaning, wiping down the insides of drawers and cabinets. Take a cold, hard look at what you've stored in each space. Are there duplicate gadgets? Spices so dated they've lost their potency? Toss or donate anything you no longer need. Bonus: As you weed out the excess, you may even find long-forgotten treasures pushed to the back of a cupboard.

Before you put anything back, be sure its location makes sense. Store items where you'll need them most: utensils in the prep area, cookware within reach of the stove, tableware close to the dishwasher and ideally, near the dining area too. Also think about whether the storage you have meets your needs. If mail tends to pile up on a counter, don't fight it. Give it a home—a basket or cubby to neatly corral bills and correspondence. All kinds of accessories and systems are available, from inexpensive drawer dividers to brand-new custom cabinetry.

{unclutter} *your kitchen*



PHOTOGRAPHS BY GRIDLEY AND GRAVES





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1} **EASY ADD-ONS** Chrome-coated wire shelves mounted over a range or cooktop bring tools and seasonings to the heart of the meal-prep zone. 2} **CUT CORNERS** Look for revolving and swing-out shelving that make the most of the dead space in corner cabinets. 3} **MIND THE GAP** Here, because a few inches separated drawer units in a corner arrangement near the sink, a vertical gap became a perfect home to slide-out towel bars. A similar narrow space could be equipped to store trays. 4} **ON DISPLAY** Open shelving and sturdy hooks mean you never have to wonder where to find your favorite tools.

product picks



Bailey island, $2,400. *cottageandbungalow.com.*



Holman wine bottle shelf, $75; wineglass shelf, $85. 888-779-5176; *potterybarn.com.*



Heavy-duty mixer-appliance lifter, $144. *revashelf.com.*



Grundtal spice rack, $20. *ikea.com.* ■

{toolbox}

Handy must-haves to get the job done

Written by **Christine Cameron**



GREEN MACHINE

Tape measures can ding up and jam easily, so Komelon has created one with durable features: an impact-resistant rubberized case, nylon blade and self-lock mechanism. $7, *lowes.com*.



HANDY HINGES

A key component of your arsenal, needle- or long-nose pliers reach what others cannot. Ridgid's 8-inch model has a flush rivet design to help access tight areas. $15, *toolsdirect.com*.



SIZE IT UP

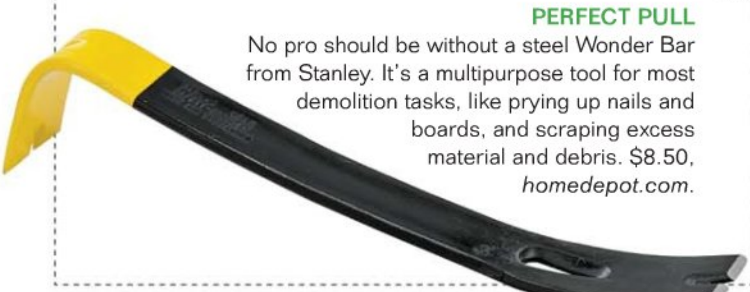
Be a carpenter, or just look like one. Swanson's 7-inch Speed Square—used to measure, miter and square-up corners, or for more complex carpentry tasks—is an old-school essential. $6, *sears.com*.

FALL IN LINE

When it absolutely, positively has to be straight, you need to use a chalk-line reel. Speedline's has a compact case, a reinforced retractable handle and clutch release. $7, *sears.com*.







PERFECT PULL

No pro should be without a steel Wonder Bar from Stanley. It's a multipurpose tool for most demolition tasks, like prying up nails and boards, and scraping excess material and debris. $8.50, *homedepot.com*.

CLEAN CUT

Not all saws are alike. Craftsman's 15-inch contractor hand saw has fine teeth up front to initiate a clean cut, a rigid blade that reduces binding, and a hardwood handle. $13, *sears.com*. ➤



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{toolbox}



PIECE BY PIECE
Get more bang for your buck with a kit like Speedfit's 16-piece Removable Connector Set. A variety of bits fit one universal, ergonomically designed handle. $15, *lowes.com*.



GOOD GRIP
A versatile tool for most any DIY project, tongue-and-groove pliers adjust to maximize grip. Channellock's 10-inch carbon-steel model is guaranteed to not slip. $15, *lowes.com*.



HARD HEADED
Kobalt's 20-ounce hammer has a hardy hickory wood handle and varnished steel magnetic head, for fewer smashed thumbs when pounding in nails. $19, *lowes.com*.



BOX IT UP
What good are tools when you can't conveniently find or schlep them? This classic heavy-duty 20-inch toolbox does the trick, with a removable tote and a comfortable handle grip. $20, *lowes.com*. ■


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{curb appeal}

Crafted touches and fresh colors brighten a Gothic Revival house

Written by **Chris Hughes**

This restored Gothic Revival gets updated with trim in chic deep blue and dark—almost plum—red. The style was popular in America in the 1800s, when inventive carpenters used improved tools and fancy patterns to dress up a house, simulating the elaborate gewgaws and decorations of medieval European buildings. Back then (and today, too) a modest home could look fancy, fast, with trims cut from wood and painted, rather than carved in stone.

PHOTOGRAPH: PETER CHRISTOPHER, FROM *ARCHITECTURAL INSPIRATION: STYLES, DETAILS AND SOURCES*, BY RICHARD SKINULIS AND PETER CHRISTOPHER (BOSTON MILLS PRESS, 2007)

design elements

OPEN INVITATION The homeowners needed to make the most of a shallow front yard. Stone steps, a herringbone-pattern brick terrace, casual perennial garden beds and wide, painted stairs all add visual interest and make the path to the door and covered porch a pleasant journey.

VARIATIONS ON A THEME The cutout carpenter's trims on this house have a strikingly modern look, and are playfully varied. There's a twisted ribbon shaped baluster (the part under the handrail on the porch), a pointed arch pattern frieze (on the edge of the porch roof and bay window) and an even more fanciful vergeboard (that's the trim on the gable). It all adds up to a cheerful style.

BEST FACE FORWARD The substantial covered porch gable is dolled up with an arch, columns, inset painted leaf-shaped frieze, a circle ornament centered above, and a turned-wood finial at the top.

FLYING THE COLORS The palette is established with ivory clapboard siding and brighter white trims, plus indigo blue shutters and burnished red details that match the brick terrace. Downspouts, fascia boards and turned-wood finials get the same color treatment. ■



{color cues}

Neutrals take a new turn with subtle hits of color

Written by **Ginevra Pylant**

Today's sophisticated neutral palette goes beyond the bland confines of basic beige. Nature-inspired hues such as oatmeal, linen and stone are emerging as chic alternatives. "These shades are on the cusp of the light gray colors, and are almost the direct opposite of the warm buttery tones of off-white," says Stephanie Hoppen, author of *Perfect Neutrals* (Watson-Guptill, 2007). "They are cooler in every sense of the word—in the hip sense and also in terms of the atmosphere they create." Mixed with chocolate-brown and purple accents, the scheme remains subtle but feels warmer and slightly feminine. "For best effect, these shades benefit from textures of any sort, both rough and soft," says Hoppen. "Chenille, wool, wicker, stone, metal and wood will show off these tones to best advantage."

PHOTOGRAPHS: LUKE WHITE. FROM *PERFECT NEUTRALS*

SEE SOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

1



"Dark purple and chocolate velvet add a richness and warmth to otherwise cool colors"
—Stephanie Hoppen, author of *Perfect Neutrals*



2



3

4



1} PURPLE RAIN
Soft light drizzles down from amethyst droplets on this Venetian chandelier. Item number R102809, $414. 877-445-4486; *lumens.com*.

2} WHOLE GRAIN
Rustic, yet refined, these Eames walnut stools infuse neutral palettes with texture and warmth. $800 each. 800-301-9720; *roomandboard.com*.

3} BOTANICAL PRINT
Shades of purple bloom against the soft, creamy background of this linen fabric. Use just a touch here and there to tie everything together. Pattern F5866/0, $158 per yard (to the trade only); *osborneandlittle.com*.

4} NATURAL HABITAT
Made of creamy oatmeal-colored wool, the Ella rug will keep the color scheme grounded. 5×8-foot rug, $500. 877-244-2776; *chiasso.com*.

5} SQUARED AWAY Introduce shades of chocolate and purple with accent pillows in richly textured fabrics, such as raw silk and plush velvet. Hayward in Iris (left), $30, and Tempo in Cafe Noir (right), $33. 800-967-6696; *crateandbarrel.com*.

6} STRUCTURALLY SOUND
A dove-gray cotton keeps the Chatham sofa quiet, while bronze nail heads show off its elegant shape. $1,600. 866-451-6314; *bernhardt.com*. ■

6



5



{before & after}

A designer enriches and expands a small bath for three teens to share

Written by **Mervyn Kaufman**





BEFORE: A single ceiling fixture cast a cold light on a vintage '60s bath. Storage was minimal, and the overall mood was cheerless and dated.

AFTER: The expanded bath now includes a spacious vanity with two sinks, a glassed-in shower and a freestanding tub.

PROBLEM: The new owners of a 1940s lakeside cottage in Minnesota had to make room for a houseful of kids. With only one sink and no shower, this bath (last redone in 1964) was barely adequate for one child, let alone the three teenage girls who would use it.

SOLUTION: Designer Mark Hoiseth, of Stonehouse, Inc., in Wayzata, Minnesota, expanded the space in order to include a separate shower and bench, plus two sinks set into a long vanity. "We appropriated two closets and shaved eight inches off the bedroom next door to create a 112-square-foot space that three teens could easily share," he says. The bath's original door faced the central staircase, open to the front of the house. "We moved the opening to provide more privacy," Hoiseth says. The designers also created a special niche with a barrel-vaulted ceiling for the new tub. Centered beneath an oval window, the sleek fixture serves as a dramatic focal point. ■

in the details

LIGHT Sconces and recessed ceiling fixtures augment the natural light that enters the space through a new oval window centered over the tub. Cheerful brick-toned walls add richness and warmth.

MATERIALS Polished nickel faucets and drawer knobs add sparkle; granite on the countertop plus shower-bench and ledge introduces texture, as do the 3×6-inch honed limestone tiles set subway style that wrap the shower. The flooring is also limestone, but in 16×16-inch tiles.

STORAGE Capacious drawers provide ample storage for extra towels, blow dryers and all the toiletries of the three young ladies who share the space.

PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY STONEHOUSE DESIGNS

{ save or splurge } *storage pieces*

Produced by **Jennifer Iacovelli** & **Ayn-Monique Tetreault-Rooney Klahre**



SAVE
$100

CHEERY TOMATO
The PS Cabinet in fire engine red conjures a happy childhood with a design inspired by an old-school locker. 800-434-4532; *ikea.com*.



BRIGHTEN UP
The modern shape and lacquered Lobster finish of the Halogen Credenza will add a perky touch to any room. 800-606-6252; *cb2.com*.

SPLURGE
$500



SAVE
$350

REFINED LINES
The streamlined shape of the Manhattan Armoire makes it a versatile piece for any setting. 800-591-3869; *target.com*.



SIMPLE ELEGANCE
Details like the subtly angled legs on the Kieran Armoire take it from plain to pleasing. 866-427-4287; *arhaus.com*.

SPLURGE
$2,800



SAVE

$1,100

SHINE ON

A silver finish and antiqued mirrors make the Borghese Buffet a glamorous option. 800-908-6748; *zgallerie.com*.



SAVE

$200

GREAT HEIGHTS

The Sawhorse Bookshelf's barely-there frame adds storage without bulking up a wall. 800-536-7551; *ballarddesigns.com*.



UPON REFLECTION

The Excelsior Buffet Server brings a chic touch to a sophisticated dining room or foyer. 800-262-6612; *shadesoflight.com*.

SPLURGE

$1,700



UP THE LADDER

Open shelving and strong lines make the A Frame Bookcase a stylish accent. 800-922-4119; *westelm.com*.

SPLURGE

$400



SAVE

$200

COTTAGE CHARM

Cheer up a casual dining room with the Harwick Lowboy in a spring-y hue. 877-537-8539; *homedecorators.com*.



SPLURGE

$1,400

RUSTIC STYLE

The classic lines and distressed finish of the Camden Buffet give it an antique look. 207-967-8989; *katemadison.com*. ■



{shopping for} *windows*

Written by **Scott Gibson**

Most houses will long outlive their original windows. In time, rain and sun take their toll on anything exposed to the weather. But rising energy costs may make the best argument for updating old single-pane sashes.

New windows can be expensive, but you may find you'll get a lot for your money if you opt to completely replace old windows. Technology and design advances mean new windows last longer with less maintenance, while cutting heating and cooling bills dramatically—up to 39 percent for a 2,000-square-foot home, according to the Efficient Windows Collaborative, an industry organization. In addition, the IRS and many local utilities and municipalities offer incentives or credits for installing Energy Star–qualified windows, doors and skylights.

And you won't have to sacrifice style. Today there are many design options to suit most any architectural period and fit almost any size, including familiar single- and double-hung windows, as well as awnings, sliders, casements and fixed transoms.

If your siding, window frames and trim are still in good condition, consider replacing only the window sash—the moveable part of the window containing the glass. You'll get many of the same energy advantages you'd get from a new-construction window but at a lower cost and with less disruption.

IT'S THE DETAILS THAT COUNT

Traditional wood frames are still widely available, but aluminum-clad, fiberglass, vinyl and aluminum windows are now more common. Frames are part performance and part appear-

OPPOSITE: Wood window frames have excellent insulating properties, and the material lends itself to a wide range of molding profiles to suit any style. These Jeld-Wen wood-frame windows start at $850. *jeld-wen.com.*

ance, and each type has its pros and cons and price range (for details, see the chart at right).

Some of the most dramatic advances in window manufacturing are in the glazing, the sandwich of glass, coatings, plastic films and inert gases that together make up the transparent part of the window.

By itself, glass is a very poor insulator and for that reason single-pane windows have all but been replaced by multipane units with two and even three sheets of glass. Manufacturers can inject an inert gas, such as argon or krypton, in the space between the glass to provide a better thermal buffer. Dual-pane, gas-filled windows are now standard in new construction, but in cold-weather regions triple-pane windows may be worth the money.

Manufacturers also apply invisible coatings and films to reduce energy losses even further. Low-emissivity (low-E) coatings on the glass reflect infrared energy, helping to keep warmth inside the house during winter, and reflect heat in summer. High-performance windows use a suspended film of highly transparent plastic between panes of glass to boost thermal efficiency even more.

READ THE FINE PRINT

By using different combinations of coatings and glass, manufacturers can offer windows that are "tuned" for different climates and even for different sides of the house. ➤

Frame Type	Pros	Cons	Price Range*
Aluminum	▶ Low maintenance ▶ Low profile is a good fit with contemporary designs	▶ Poor thermal insulators make it suitable for only the mildest climates	▶ $165 and up
Vinyl	▶ Inexpensive ▶ Air chambers in vinyl extrusions provide good thermal insulation. Foam-filled extrusions are even better ▶ Very low maintenance and good durability ▶ Available with wood interiors for traditional appearance ▶ Performs well in salt-water environment	▶ Limited color selection ▶ Some manufacturers recommend against painting ▶ Vinyl interiors may be a turnoff for traditional decors	▶ $250 and up
Wood	▶ Good natural insulator ▶ Easily milled into complex molding profiles ▶ Traditional eye appeal, especially on vintage homes ▶ Paintable for unlimited color options	▶ High maintenance ▶ Requires regular painting or staining to prevent rot	▶ $320 and up
Fiberglass	▶ High strength and high resistance to dents ▶ Very low maintenance ▶ Won't decay or crack ▶ Woodlike appearance will appeal to traditionalists ▶ Good thermal performance ▶ Shrinks and expands like glass, minimizing seal failures	▶ Difficult to form in curved shapes, limiting profile choices ▶ Paint must be touched up to preserve appearance	▶ $410 and up
Aluminum Clad	▶ Low maintenance ▶ Wood interior offers traditional appearance and good insulation ▶ Thicker extruded aluminum cladding is highly durable ▶ Long-lasting factory-applied paint has broad color selection	▶ Paint must be touched up, especially in coastal environments, to prevent corrosion ▶ Thinner, roll-formed extrusions not as hardy	▶ $430 and up

*List pricing for a 3x5-foot double-hung, double-pane window. Prices are representative of differences between window types, but can vary significantly depending on features and point of purchase.





ABOVE: Vinyl windows are long-lasting, weather resistant and one of the most affordable options. Weather Shield's ProShield vinyl-clad double-hung windows start at about $325. *weathershield.com.*

LEFT: Aluminum Clad windows combine a weather-resistant exterior with a wood interior. These Kolbe & Kolbe casements list for $3,200. *kolbe-kolbe.com.*

BELOW: Fiberglass is a good insulator and very low maintenance. A double-hung style with a fan light top from Pella's Impervia collection runs about $330. *pella.com.*

How to choose the right one? Start by browsing the government's Energy Star Website (*energystar.gov*), which explains its window-rating system and makes recommendations for different parts of the country.

Another source of information is the National Fenestration Rating Council label that's affixed to every new window. Look for two key numbers, the window's "U-value" and its "Solar Heat Gain Coefficient."

The U-value is a measure of how well the window blocks heat transmittance. It's actually the inverse of the more familiar "R-value" used to rate insulation: The lower the U-value, the better job the window will do at stopping heat loss.

The solar heat gain coefficient represents the amount of heat that is transmitted through the glass—the lower the number, the less heat is getting through. If you live where air conditioning bills are high, windows with a low coefficient will keep the house cooler. In the snowy north, windows with a high coefficient, especially on the south side of the house, will allow the sun to warm the interior during the winter.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Whether heating or cooling represents the lion's share of your energy consumption, your choice of windows can shave hundreds of dollars off your annual bill, and boost indoor comfort while conserving resources.

Exact savings will depend on your climate and the type of window that's installed, but the government's energy office estimates that replacing single-pane windows with Energy Star–qualified windows could reap savings of up to $465 a year. For a better estimate specific to your region, check the Energy Star Website. ■





{diy}

Make over an old mirror with painted twigs or driftwood

Photograph by **Aimee Herring** Produced and Styled by **Ingrid Leess**

SKILL LEVEL: Beginner
MATERIALS: Assorted dry twigs or driftwood; garden snips; green spray paint; hot-glue gun; flea-market mirror.

DIRECTIONS: 1} Cut twigs or driftwood into 3- to 5-inch pieces, depending upon size of mirror. **2}** Place wood on newspaper; apply several light coats of paint, letting them dry and turning them over after each coat. **3}** Glue twigs to mirror, starting about 2 inches from outer edge (if mirror has frame, be sure to cover frame); apply twigs in overlapping layers as you work toward outer edge. Let dry. ■



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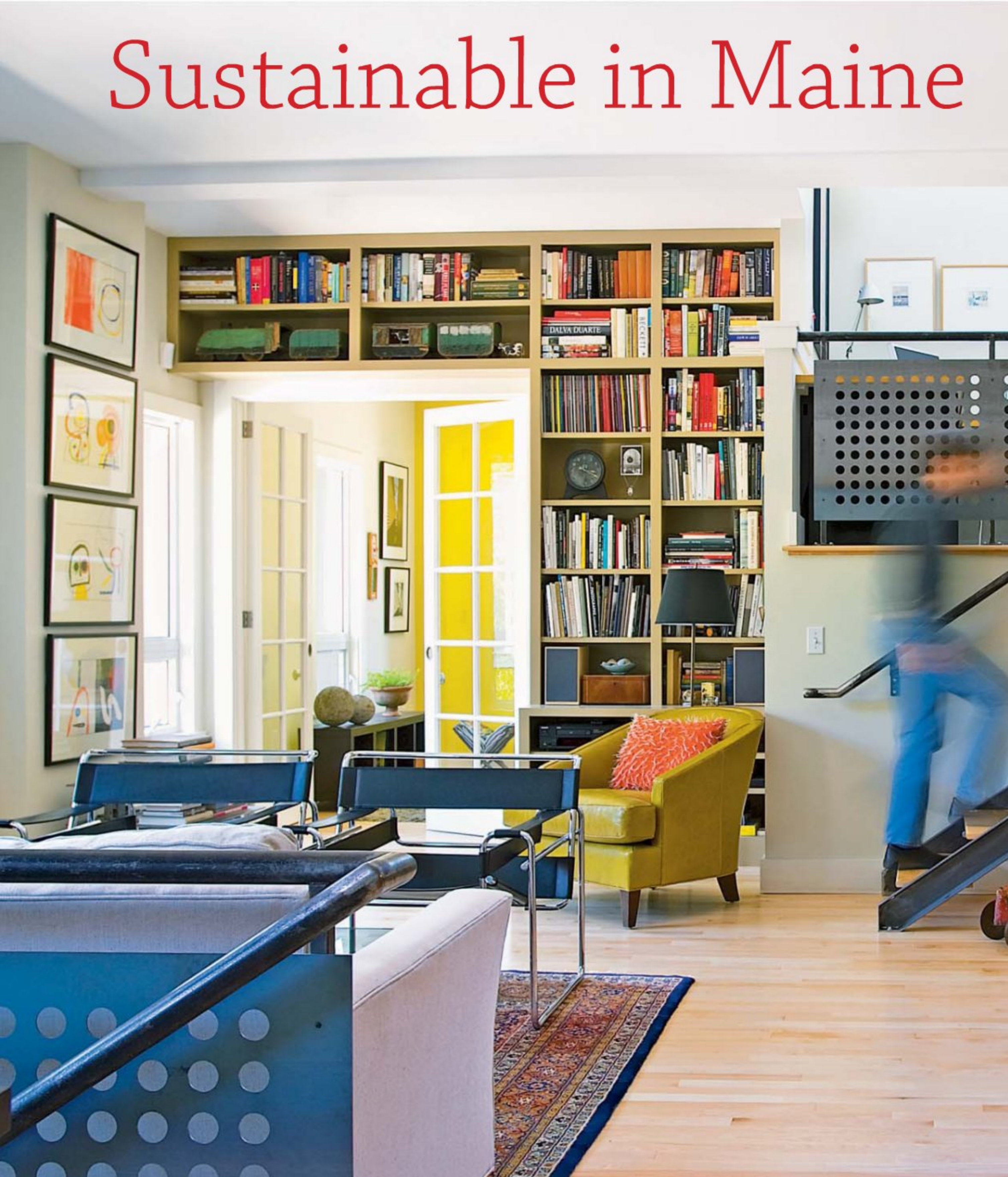
Green Is Beautiful

Embracing the new eco friendly ethos, our portfolio of whole-house makeovers and kitchen and bath remodels includes plenty of fresh low impact, high-style design innovations.



PHOTOGRAPH: LINCOLN BARBOUR

Sustainable in Maine



SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

An architect reimagines—and recycles—a home





ABOVE: The canopy over the office entrance is planted with golden thread cypress. A solar panel adjoins the rooftop garden, or green roof, which is accessed from a new bump-up above the study. The exterior brick is original.

LEFT: The stair landing that leads to the elevated mezzanine/home office doubles as a buffet in the dining area. The ladder provides rooftop access; perforated steel panels on rails are custom-built.

Written by
Bernadette Baczynski

Photographs by
James R. Solomon

Styled by
Janet Friskey







BEFORE: Architect Rick Renner and his wife, Janet Friskey, a graphic designer, saw potential in the shell of their old commercial building in Portland, Maine.

LEFT: A half-flight of stairs leads into the living room from the apartment's new side-street entrance. Throughout, Rick had new triple-glazed windows installed.

Architect Richard Renner wanted to work close to home. So when an old storefront building with both commercial space and a townhouse above was put up for sale in Portland, Maine, he and his wife, Janet Friskey, jumped at the chance to buy it—even though the 100-year-old brick building was "slowly deteriorating," says Rick.

The energy-inefficient building was an eyesore, with a used-clothing and storage facility below, crumbling interiors, a badly arranged living space and an unattractive common entrance to both. But Rick and Janet, a Boston-based graphic designer, immediately saw its potential.



It was within a few blocks of the city's Old Port on the Atlantic Ocean, in a not-yet-gentrified neighborhood with lots of promise. And it would give the couple the chance to collaborate on "an environmentally responsible project in the city," says Rick, something they'd both wanted to do for a long time.

"Basically, we bought the building being pretty sure we could do something good," Rick recalls, adding with a smile, "I guess you could call it faith-based design." But it took more than a rosy outlook to tame the old building and make it eco-friendly. Rick, an award-winning, LEED-certified pro, brought his considerable knowledge of green design to the table. (LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a certification system created by the United States Green Building Council.) "He's walked the talk long before it was popular," says Janet.

The couple's renovation began in 2006, when they entirely gutted the structure—even the steep interior stairway—leaving only the original brick exterior shell. In order to make the new structure as energy efficient as possible, Rick had high levels of insulation and new triple-glazed windows installed, in addition to new ventilat-





ABOVE: Open to the living areas, the new kitchen includes bamboo-plywood cabinets, pulls made from old window frames, and high-efficiency appliances. A freestanding pantry (with mirror) creates a visual buffer from the stairwell entrance.

ABOVE RIGHT: A small den adjoins the living room, and is also used as a compact guest room, with a pull-out sofa sleeper.

what was done

- **GUTTED** both floors of the building; left exterior brick intact
- **RELOCATED** the townhouse entrance to the side and removed interior stairs to create separate work/live spaces
- **INSTALLED** new insulation, triple-glazed windows, and energy-efficient mechanical systems
- **BUMPED UP** the roof over mezzanine to create a home studio space and provide access to a new rooftop garden
- **RECONFIGURED** the townhouse layout to include open living areas and two bedrooms
- **SPECIFIED** sustainable materials and low-VOC paints throughout the apartment
- **PLANTED** low-maintenance roof and canopy garden beds, to insulate and manage water runoff



ABOVE: Pale gray walls, painted as in other rooms with low- or no-VOC paint, complement the master bedroom's sleek lines. An old metal dresser was repainted at an auto-body shop; the landscape photo was taken by Rick.

ing, heating and air-conditioning equipment.

Downstairs, Rick collaborated with his architecture colleagues to create an efficient office layout. Upstairs, he and Janet put their heads together to come up with a two-bedroom-plus-den plan with lots of light and plenty of environmentally responsible materials.

To create separate living and business spaces, Rick relocated the townhouse entrance to the side street. Inside, the floor plan was reconfigured to create contemporary, livable spaces. The open kitchen features green products such as counters made from recycled paper, bamboo cabinets and cabinet pulls crafted from the building's old metal window sashes. Throughout, Rick specified low-VOC paints, formaldehyde-free plywood, recycled doors and sustainably harvested birch floors from Maine. High-efficiency fixtures and appliances conserve energy and keep bills in check.



BEFORE: The townhouse shared an entrance with the office; an awkward floor plan chopped up the space.



AFTER: Relocated entrances created more room for a well-conceived living plan—and more sunlight, too

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



LEFT: A low-maintenance and stylish green roof covers a third of the space and is planted with sedum in gravel-filled trays. The plants winter over nicely, and have tripled in size, says Janet. The green roof also insulates the building and helps to manage rainwater runoff.

BELOW: Janet and Rick, a dedicated cyclist, use the small bedroom as an exercise room. Framed vintage cycling jerseys adorn the walls, and a reclaimed rolling cart, repainted red, holds a TV and exercise videos.



Among Rick's innovative ideas was the bump-up he created over the apartment's mezzanine level to bring more light and living room into the apartment. "You couldn't even stand up in the mezzanine before," Rick recalls. Today the space is a compact studio with work space and storage for Rick's amateur photography hobby, with retractable-ladder access to a new rooftop garden. "I'm a gardener," says Janet, "and since we don't have a yard, I have the rooftop and the canopies over the doors." The roof also holds a solar panel to offset utility costs.

Now, says Janet, the office/residence attracts the attention of passersby, in a good way. "People are drawn to it, and Rick can display project models in the office window," says Janet. "It's a wonderful way to educate people about what can be done to revitalize buildings and neighborhoods." ■

Serene on the COAST

A frugal, eco-friendly makeover in a home where the view's the thing

Written by **Kim Waller**
Photographs by **Ken Gutmaker**
Styled by **Sharon Inahara**



RIGHT: The living room is narrow, but the Oregon coast is wide, especially when taken in from the reupholstered second-hand sofa and cozy chaises at the window. Designer Lois Mackenzie completely refurbished this "beach shack" with her architect friend, Pamela Hill, for instant, turn-key living.

BELOW: The original living room was dark and cluttered.



before





The view from a bluff on the windy, sea-gouged Oregon coast is spectacular. But the house situated there was another matter. When Pamela Hill and Lois Mackenzie found and were smitten by this 1940s two bedroom "beach shack," as some local builders called it when they also recommended tearing it down. It needed too much work. Yet the interior designer and architect duo were not about to see their diamond-in-the-rough dream house carted off to the dump. Instead, they envisioned a remodeled abode that was smart, sturdy and resellable. Moreover, they knew they could find ways to accomplish this within a reasonable budget.

Pamela and Lois are nothing if not resourceful. For the two designing women, who both juggle other jobs, children and husbands, renovating houses together is a side business. "We're obsessed with transforming beach houses that need lots of TLC," says Lois. So they picked a good one.

With an owner-held mortgage in hand, they found a simpatico contractor and went to work. "We don't renovate just



ABOVE: Visually weighty upper cabinets, a bulky fridge and a flow-blocking counter overcrowded the kitchen.

TOP: Now efficient and more open, the new kitchen does away with upper cabinets, and includes a below-counter fridge. The sleek island is restaurant supply, the sink is now placed under the window, and inexpensive trays are artfully displayed for graphic punch.



ABOVE: The dining room had no definition, and lacked a sense of welcome.

for aesthetic—the underbelly has to be sound," says Pamela. Luckily the roof was in good shape, but they needed to install new windows, wiring, plumbing, floors and a deck. Then they reclad the exterior with natural cedar shingles.

With the structure and systems up and running, they turned to the interior. Their goal was a "turn-key" house, fully equipped down to the dishes and shower curtains, and furnished in a fresh, clean style—so a new owner could just move in. Inspired by the rocks and light of the romantic coastline, they chose a contemporary palette of gray, white and citrus colors. The formerly dark-painted rooms became airy and unified. Lois created a pantry by dividing an adjacent utility room, and banished the cluttered upper cabinets from the kitchen.



BEFORE: The 1,750-square-foot cottage slept only four. A utility area and family room offered room for expansion.



A contemporary, rectangular table is placed perpendicular to the window so everyone gets to share the sweeping sea view. The eight-seater commands the space, and makes the dining room a centerpiece of the house.



AFTER: The family room is now two new bedrooms; the utility area is a pantry. The home now comfortably sleeps six.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

RIGHT: The new bath is crisp and classic, textured with beadboard wainscoting and subway tiles, laid vertically, around the tub and shower.





ABOVE: A graphic, citrus-colored coverlet and sheer curtains lend cheery coziness to this spare retreat. In a unifying and efficient stroke, the same bubbly duvets are used throughout the house.

RIGHT: In the original bathroom, the toilet crowded the sink. The vanity lights over the sink were inefficient and unattractive.



what was done

- **REPLACED** leaky plumbing, insufficient wiring and energy-inefficient windows
- **CLAD** the exterior with low-maintenance and long-weathering cedar shakes to defy the blustery coastal climate
- **RECONFIGURED** usable space like the large utility room off the kitchen that became both a pantry and guest bedroom
- **CHOSE** a palette of neutral whites to unify the house; lively citrus-inspired accent colors, used sparingly, brighten things up
- **DECORATED** inventively, by thinking of the whole house—not merely room by room—and by placing furniture where it was needed, not just arranged for looks
- **ECONOMIZED** by using materials like floor tiles for countertops, and a few pieces of newly covered vintage furniture, flea-market finds



ABOVE: A tidy collection of graphic prints adds accents in the new bath. Bath linens echo the citrus color theme used throughout the house.



How to make a 1,750-square-foot house spiffy on a very tight budget? Start with resourcefulness, then add panache and bargain hunting. "We combined luxury items like fine bed linens and boutique rugs, with thrift-shop and department-store finds," says Pamela. For example, she specified stonelike floor tiles for the kitchen countertops—a big savings. The living room sofa is second-hand, reupholstered. A striking yellow chandelier with hand-blown glass "shells" was a bargain because one shell was missing (they simply replaced it). The new red oak floors are second grade, yet beautiful.

Just 16 days after Pamela and Lois put up the For Sale sign back in 2007, Mark Peters, his wife, Joan, and their fluffy white dog, Sherlock, were walking along the beach when they saw the sign, peered through the windows and promptly bought the place. "It was perfect—small, low maintenance and beautiful," Joan says. "Sherlock's joy convinced us. So we've named it 'Sherlock's Shack.'" ■

Even on gray days, when the fog and surf roll in from the Pacific, Mark Peters and his wife, Joan, delight in their new weekend getaway in Arch Cape, Oregon. Clearly, so does their dog, Sherlock.

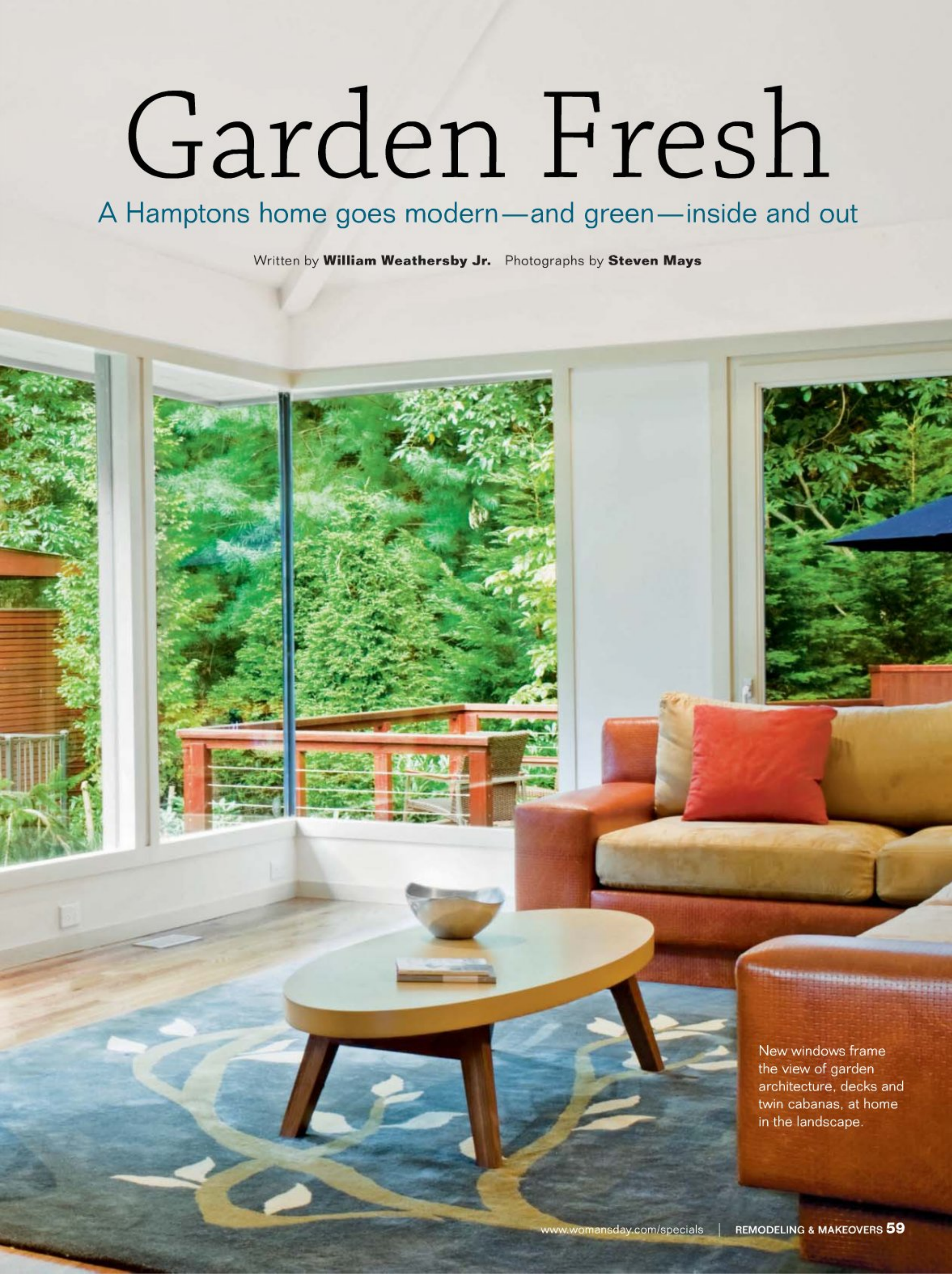


SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

Garden Fresh

A Hamptons home goes modern—and green—inside and out

Written by **William Weathersby Jr.** Photographs by **Steven Mays**



New windows frame the view of garden architecture, decks and twin cabanas, at home in the landscape.



Frank and Maria Chiodi, new homeowners in East Hampton, New York, had an ambitious wish list for a planned remodel: better bathrooms, a larger master suite, a new kitchen and enhanced outdoor spaces for entertaining. The couple, with two young daughters and careers in finance, worked with LEED-accredited architect Joseph Eisner to overhaul the 1980s house "that was in dire need of updating," he says. Tackled in stages, the upgrades Eisner introduced transformed the lackluster house into an inviting retreat from work life in Manhattan. "It was a modest three-bedroom home that we wanted to expand and give a more modern feeling," Frank says.

Eisner approached the project with green design in mind. "Rather than raze the structure, which is common in the Hamptons, adapting the house within its original footprint was in itself a conservation strategy," he says. "And for the new construction we employed sustainable materials throughout the house."

He fabricated cabinets from Lyptus, a hybrid hardwood grown in managed-growth forests. Some tile and counters are made from recycled materials. Low-flow, dual-flush toilets enhance all three bathrooms. Efficient new windows and sliding doors, plus low-voltage and fluorescent lighting are also conservation-savvy additions. And eco-friendly finishes, low-VOC paints and



LEFT: Built-in shelving and storage units in the living room are fabricated from Lyptus, a hybrid hardwood. Architect Joseph Eisner linked the second floor to the space by wrapping the balcony with it as well.

BELOW and **BOTTOM LEFT:** Custom stainless steel cabinets complement the Energy Star–rated appliances. The pass-through to the living room is also constructed of Lyptus, and contains refrigerated wine storage.







ABOVE: A boxy wallboard balcony enclosure and bland walls lacked visual interest in the living room.

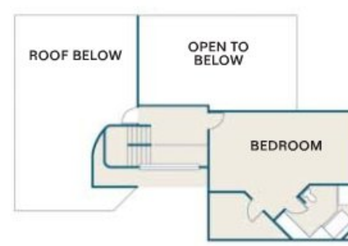




BEFORE: The dining room was open to the living room and outdated kitchen. The staircase had been enclosed, blocking light.



AFTER: The kitchen was reconfigured, built-in cabinetry was installed in the living room, and a deck was added.



BEFORE: A small master bath and the lack of a second bedroom up-stairs hemmed in the family of four.



AFTER: A bumpout to the roof-line enlarged the master suite; another expansion created a second bedroom and bath.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

ABOVE: In the children's bathroom, an oak counter supports a sculptural sink. Blue penny-round tiles cover the walls and floor. Where the floor meets the tub surround, the tile is laid to curve up to face the surround as one smooth, sweeping surface.

OPPOSITE: Mimicking the pool cabanas outside, a witty structure in the master bedroom houses a his-and-hers closet, entered from either side. A sculptural bolstered leather headboard is inset in the slatted mahogany wall.

stains, were used throughout the house.

A top priority was gaining more room in the private quarters upstairs. One stage of the renovation expanded two attic spaces at either end of the house to create two bedrooms and baths. The master suite, including a bath with granite tile and marble countertop accompanying the Lyptus cabinetry, added 400 additional square feet.

"I wanted to create an indoor/outdoor garden sensibility, visually connecting the two areas," Eisner says. And so with an architectural wink and a nudge, the bedroom now features a wood-lathe pavilion structure. Enclosing a walk-through his-and-hers closet, it echoes the two poolside cabanas outside and provides an architectural anchor for the room. It is detailed with an integrated leather bolster headboard and recessed downlighting.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the second floor, an expansion of about 300 square feet accommodates a children's bedroom and separate bathroom. The bath is awash in vibrant blue penny-round tile covering the floor, walls and tub surround for a fresh, easy-to-maintain look.

Linking the second floor with the main level, the old stairwell was freed from its sheetrock enclosure. The new staircase, with oak risers and railings threaded with steel cables, establishes a light and airy sculptural presence off the foyer.

The overhaul of the first floor, accomplished in another stage of the renovation, encompassed a new U-shaped kitchen plan that is open to the living room. A pass-through room divider with a credenza-like feeling is clad in Lyptus. Custom-made stainless steel cabinets, some with glass fronts, complement stainless steel appliances with Energy Star ratings. Dark green marble countertops and lighter green glass wall tile

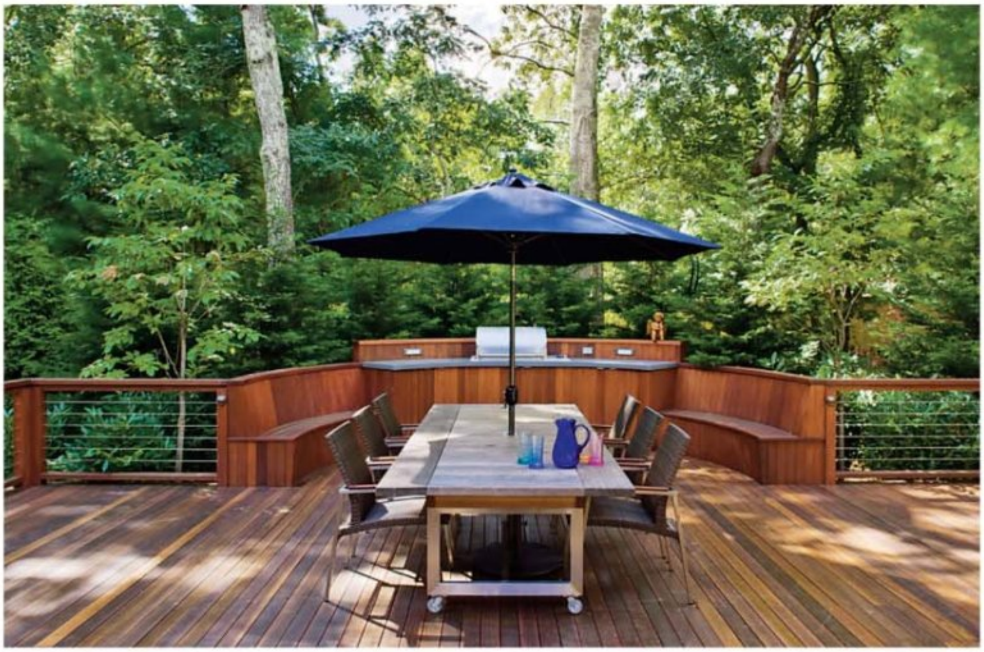


what was done

- **BUMPED OUT** two second-floor additions at either end of the house
- **EXPANDED** the master bedroom suite to include a renovated bathroom with Lyptus cabinetry and granite tile
- **ENHANCED** the pool area with two mahogany cabanas and a pergola, to add architectural stature–and privacy for showering
- **TAILORED** the landscape with stone-clad planters, edging and a broad deck that enhances outdoor entertaining
- **RECONFIGURED** the kitchen to create a better flow with the living room
- **MIXED** materials in the kitchen like stainless steel cabinets, glass tile and marble counters







ABOVE: Two cabana structures are linked by a pergola, and are constructed of slatted mahogany. One is a shower/changing room, the other is for storage. 4×4-inch stone pavers were used, poolside.

RIGHT: The new deck, with built-in seating and grill, is also constructed of mahogany. The stainless steel cable railing suggests a nautical theme. Joseph Eisner designed the table.





ABOVE: The chimney and the bedroom bump-out are clad in stucco and painted to match the siding. The planters that border the house and the mahogany deck were constructed from rusticated, engineered stone.

ABOVE: The pitched roofline hemmed in the second floor. Plantings near the house seemed haphazardly arranged.

contrast with the steel surfaces and refinished oak floors. "There's a significantly better flow for entertaining with the kitchen now open to the living room and deck, just outside," Frank says.

In the adjacent living room, a wall-to-wall credenza and shelving unit creates visual continuity. Above, the second-floor balcony gained architectural heft with a similar wood treatment supported by blackened metal hardware.

There was a major makeover outdoors, too: The second floor bumpouts and chimney were clad in stucco. A mahogany deck with a built-in grill and seating seems to extend the living room into the trees. The landscape got some tailoring with planters made of rusticated, engineered, stone that form the crisp border from house and deck to pool. And beside the pool, two mahogany slat cabanas, linked by a pergola, provide storage and space for showers and changing. Merging indoor and outdoor living, this updated house now weds modern architectural forms with tactile materials for a graceful getaway in the Hamptons. ■





A modern family reinvents a split-level ranch

Opening Up the Box

Written by **William Weathersby Jr.** Photographs by **Lincoln Barbour** Styled by **Bergren Rameson**



TOP and **ABOVE:** Overgrown shrubs surrounded the old stoop, and were replaced by a new deck and entrance. Battleship-gray paint was updated with a lighter, sandy shade.

OPPOSITE: An upholstered window seat creates a dining nook in the open kitchen/living room.

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A new picture window centers the dining area and overlooks the front yard. The built-in shelves topped by a maple slab create a divider from the front entry.

A run-down split-level might not be the most promising real-estate find, but when Alexis and Kelly Zahoudanis sensed hidden potential, they decided to make an offer. Relocating from Los Angeles to Portland, Oregon, the couple with two young sons liked the new neighborhood, but the house lacked charm. Its problem areas? An outmoded kitchen, a small master bath and "a front stoop of two concrete steps, and small windows dotting the facade," Kelly recalls. But they took a leap of faith and just knew some smart renovation could turn things around in their new, 2,700-square-foot, four-bedroom project.

After searching portfolios online, Alexis and Kelly hired local interior designer Jessica Helgerson, who approached the makeover as a process of removing interior walls and reconfiguring spaces to create clean-lined rooms. Helgerson's architect husband Yianni Doulis also signed on to the project.

Helgerson's environmentally responsible design palette includes sustainably harvested wood, natural-fiber carpeting, antique and vintage furniture, and



ABOVE: Two panels of an existing window and a partition wall in the original living room were removed to create more symmetry as well as space to accommodate the new kitchen and breakfast nook.

organic fabrics, including linen and cotton. She specified nontoxic or low-VOC paints and finishes, and energy-efficient features like a new water heater, dual-glazed windows and improved insulation.

Doulis enhanced the first impression the home would make by installing a new front porch built of ipe wood, and a pergola of cedar certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. A picture window now balances the facade, and frames a nice view from the dining table. Doulis deftly added architectural oomph to the roofline, simply by painting the fascia.

Inside, they removed the enclosed kitchen to create a great room–style living space. Stretching the width of the house, the kitchen now opens to the combined living and dining areas. "It's one bright and airy space that has a loftlike feeling," Kelly says. Painted wood cabinets and Carrara marble countertops are complemented by stainless steel appliances. There's also a new corner breakfast nook and window seat, and a center island with open shelving for storage and display—all in a black-and-white motif that feels tidy and crisp.

In the adjacent living room, Helgerson removed drywall to find a brick fireplace wall. To enhance the open feel, the brick and exposed structural beams overhead were painted white. Chocolate-brown tiles on the hearth



ABOVE: The new kitchen stretches the width of the house and now is part of one great room, which includes the living and dining areas. Dark-stained open shelves provide display and storage beneath a countertop of white Carrara marble. French doors (to the left of breakfast nook) open onto a deck.





BEFORE
The existing closed-in galley kitchen was cut off from the living spaces by partition walls.

AFTER
Now the great room incorporates the kitchen and the living and dining rooms.



FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



complement ebonized oak floors. A rocking chaise and a sofa are among Helgerson's vintage furniture finds, and Doulis designed a sculptural coffee table with a top made from a salvaged slab of knotty maple.

Upstairs, the floor plan was reconfigured by moving the master bath from the front to the back of the house. It now overlooks a garden. Saraceno limestone countertops are supported by bathroom cabinets made of a sustainable material engineered from sorghum plants. A spare bedroom adjacent to the new bath was converted to an office. The renovation also included the powder room and the boys' bath downstairs, where fixtures were replaced and dual-flush toilets were installed for added efficiency.

"Jessica worked well with us to simplify the floor plan and gain space within the same building footprint," Kelly says. "On a tight schedule and a limited budget, the makeover created the updated, modern feeling we were after." Updated, modern, and well worth that initial leap of faith. ■

ABOVE: In the renovated powder room, black tile is used as wainscoting beneath a graphic wallpaper print of birds and branches. The countertops are Calacatta marble and the sconce is a custom design.

OPPOSITE ABOVE LEFT: Used as wainscoting around the room and enclosing the lower part of the shower, larger tiles were cut to 3×12 inches for a custom look. The tub surround and countertops are Saraceno limestone. The bath opens onto the home office as well as the master bedroom.

OPPOSITE BELOW: To visually expand the space, the wall behind the bed is painted brown to match linen draperies, hung ceiling to floor. The vintage chest is rosewood.









ABOVE: The existing bath in the master bedroom suite became a walk-in closet, and the bathroom was moved to the other side of house.





An old bedroom became the tidy home office. The painted brick wall is the back side of the fireplace wall in the living room. Ebonized oak floors create a clean, orderly feel.



ABOVE: Decals depicting paper airplanes are used as a whimsical decoration in Jack's bedroom. The 100-percent-wool carpet stands up to wear and tear. Low-VOC paints were used throughout the house.

RIGHT: The Zahoudanis family, from left to right, Jack, Alexis, Peter and Kelly, cozily tuck into the living room's window seat. The cushions are upholstered in a bead-patterned canvas.



what was done

- **REFRESHED** the entrance by replacing overgrown shrubbery and a lackluster front door with a deck and pergola
- **PAINTED** the dingy exterior a soothing sandy hue, replacing the old battleship-gray color
- **ANCHORED** a new open floor plan with the kitchen, and incorporated the living and dining areas
- **CONTRASTED** new colors, textures and finishes, like white cabinets and whitewashed bricks with dark-stained cabinets and wood floors
- **RECONFIGURED** the floor plan upstairs, too, to make original awkward rooms flow together smoothly, cohesively
- **CONSERVED** resources and improved air quality by using sustainably built cabinets, low-VOC paints and stains



Warm wood, toile-patterned wallpaper, and cheery pink and graphic faux-zebra accents make this freshly redecorated room almost grown up, but still fun.

A sophisticated teen designer transforms her room into a pretty hideaway

almost grown up

Written by **Megan Fulweiler** Photographs by **John Gruen**
Produced and Styled by **Donna Talley**





BEFORE: A room in need of a serious style update.



Kate relaxes in her charming radiator-concealing catbird seat.

A teenager's room should be a sanctuary, a special haven—a spot to hang out and do the things you like best. For Kate Wasserbach, a 16-year-old with grown-up, urbane taste and plans for a career in fashion, sewing is her thing, and she needed a place to do it.

Kate's bedroom was spacious, like the rest of her family's circa-1940 home in Loudenville, New York. But time had taken its toll. A rising tide of books and teenage clutter was gaining ground in every corner. Even the cute window seat where Kate liked to read had lost its appeal.

Ruling out a disruptive renovation, Kate's family enlisted her aunt, decorator Joanne Hans, for a total makeover. The goal: a haven where Kate could feel creatively inspired. That, and put her things away.

Aunt Joanne's starting point was to pick a theme, and a color scheme. Rather than the little girl's perennial favorite purple-and-pink combination that Joanne had envisioned, Kate surprised her. Her requests?

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ABOVE: Kate's original work space was drab and forlorn.

LEFT: Framed by a pair of inexpensive glass lamps, a mirror visually expands the room. The bureau doubles as a dressing table.

BELOW: Wallpaper and black paint emphasize drawers, built into the eaves, a charming feature original to the house that proved well worth preserving.



Black and white. And, toile de Jouy—the traditional 18th-century fabric, block printed with bucolic scenes. So black-and-white toile it would be.

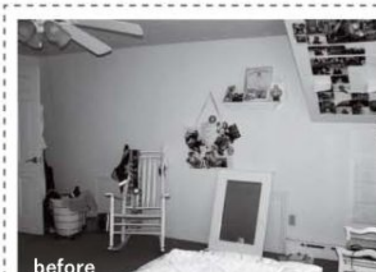
"Kate and I went to a local wallpaper store and asked them for every available book with toile," Joanne laughs.

Joanne suggested that her 21st-century niece paper just two walls, then paint the rest a clean, serene white. "Too much pattern can be overwhelming," she explained. Then she revved up the sophistication by glazing the existing bi-fold closet doors, built-in bureaus that flank the bed and window seat—all in striking semigloss black.

Next, Kate's hand-me-down furniture, dated fabrics and beige carpet were shown the door. Instead, Joanne specified the handsome four-poster, dresser, mirror and night tables that now enliven the room and provide the aspiring fashion designer with all the storage a girl could need. A splurge, even with her to-the-trade discounts, Joanne knew that the new furnishings would be heirlooms Kate could keep for many years to come. A faux-zebra rug and matching chair fabric riff on the black-and-white theme.

Joanne also angled in a work surface for sewing and drawing, supported on components that provide cubbies to boost the room's storage. A cabinet keeps files and swatches orderly, and a wall-mounted calendar provides more nooks for supplies.

These days when Kate feels like lounging, she can sprawl on her bed beneath a dainty chandelier that took the place of an old ceiling fan. Or she can hold court on her freshly upholstered window seat, all polka-dots and crisp black welting. Perched on a nest of adorable cushions, she's as cozy and content as can be. ■



ABOVE: Beneath a ceiling fan that had to go, a gallery of personal photos climbed the walls, while a beige carpet lent no cheer.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



what was done

- **WALLPAPERED** two walls with Kate's favorite toile pattern, and painted the other two
- **PAINTED** the original built-ins, closet doors and window seat semigloss black
- **REPLACED** the carpet and added a graphic faux-zebra rug
- **RETAINED** the original layout, and substituted new, grown-up furnishings for old
- **SWAPPED** the ceiling fan for a sweet chandelier
- **COMMISSIONED** a window shade, and ordered a monogram to personalize it
- **PURCHASED** new bed linens and accessories



Crown molding tops the upper cabinets, and edges the skylight over a pro-style range. Energy-efficient recessed light fixtures meet California building codes. Fitted with dimmable fluorescents, they also have frosted glass plates to soften the light. Warmer xenon light sources under cabinets highlight the backsplash.

RED *zinger*

A collaborative effort yields a happy result



ABOVE: Inadequate, nondescript kitchen cabinets had a dated look. The appliance layout broke up valuable counter space.

RIGHT: Seen through an arched opening, the breakfast nook is conveniently situated between the kitchen and dining room.



Written by **Phyllis Schiller**
Photographs by **Matthew Millman**
Styled by **Rob Oxenham**

This kitchen in a compact San Francisco home had three strikes against it, recall homeowners Bill Weber and Aaron Starr. "It was dark, there wasn't a lot of counter space and the layout was dysfunctional," says Bill. In addition, the original 1936 cabinets did not stack up to the couple's 21st-century storage needs.

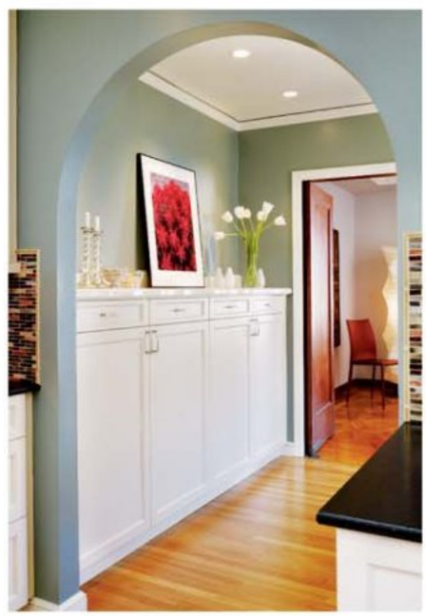
To change all that, interior designer Kathleen Monroe gutted the kitchen and tweaked the layout. To increase cooking efficiency and maximize space, the refrigerator was moved to share the wall with the range, allowing for the placement of additional cabinets. She removed a corner chase for a defunct heating system to allow for a continuous sweep of counters. An adjacent 73-square-foot breakfast nook offered extra storage. Monroe also unhinged and reconfigured the door, making it a space-conserving pocket slider. Original floors were refinished, not replaced. Although the basic footprint remained unchanged, and just a few square feet were gained, the function and flow are much improved.

The house abuts its neighbors, leaving windows only in front and back. But an inner private garden spilled natural light into the kitchen through a window over the sink, a real plus. To take full advantage, Monroe replaced it with a generously sized single-paned awning window, top hinged to swing open into the green-filled courtyard. A skylight was a discovery made when the ceiling

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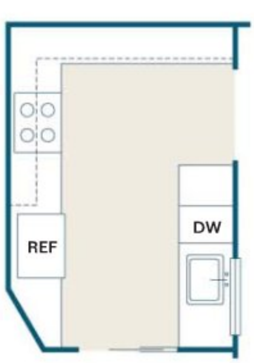




ABOVE: Framing the stainless steel–clad refrigerator, cabinetry includes a pantry closet that is proportioned to fit along an angled wall.

ABOVE RIGHT: A new awning-style window lets in natural light and the view of an inner courtyard. To the right of the sink, base cabinets hold pullout bins for trash and recycling. The base unit to the left of the dishwasher was sized to hold the microwave, with open shelving below for cookbooks.

RIGHT: Accessed through an arched passageway, the breakfast nook's original solid-wood cabinet top and picture rail were kept intact while new base cabinets were installed. A scattering of well-chosen accessories share space with a photograph of vibrant flowers.



FLOOR PLAN: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

ABOVE: To create additional counter space and storage, the stove and fridge were relocated.

was opened to install new recessed dimmable fluorescent light fixtures.

In keeping with the studied mix of contemporary styling and old objects in the rest of the home, the kitchen was kept equally simple and clean. "Neither contemporary nor super traditional, but a very classic look," explains Monroe. The walls are dusky blue, trims are classic white and countertops are black granite. The wood cabinets have brushed aluminum handles that echo the gleam of stainless professional-style appliances. To save counter space, a microwave oven is tucked into a 27-inch base cabinet, scaled to hide the appliance and keep the lines clean.

For a touch of luxury, the owners splurged on a dramatic glass-tile backsplash that wraps the room in a custom-blended mosaic of charcoal, tan and pearlescent ivory all accented with orange and crimson.

Aaron sums up their new kitchen: "We have a lot more counter space, it's much more functional, the layout's more intuitive, the sink is deeper and wider, there's more room to work and there's better lighting. And of course, the tile is beautiful!" ■

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The new kitchen maximizes cabinets and counter space. Along one wall, an array of nine soft-close drawers, rather than cabinets, was the homeowners' choice for stowing pots, pans and canned goods. The drawers are conveniently located, with the range and refrigerator to the left, and the sink and dishwasher to the right.

BELOW: The kitchen's only source of natural light was a small double-hung window that did not make the most of the lovely, light-filled courtyard outside.



what was done

- **GUTTED** the kitchen, rearranging appliances for maximum counter and cabinet space
- **KNOCKED OUT** an old heating chase to open a corner for a continuous countertop line
- **FREED UP** counter space by neatly tucking the microwave into a 27-inch cabinet cubby
- **REPLACED** a double-hung window with a single-pane awning unit to bring in natural light from the courtyard
- **ADDED** recessed, dimmable fluorescent lights and discovered a skylight when the ceiling was opened during installation
- **SPLURGED** on a custom combination of glass tiles for a unique backsplash that adds warmth and vibrant color



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Written by **Carolyn Weber** Photographs by **Ken Gutmaker**
Styled by **Linda Pope**

Formal *with a* Flourish

The surprise of the new enlivens a contemporary traditional home



LEFT: Interior designer Tineke Triggs' townhouse had a cramped and inefficient kitchen that was begging for professional attention—hers!

FAR LEFT: Positioning the stove on the opposite wall allowed Tineke to enlarge the doorway to the dining room, flooding the kitchen with natural light and improving the flow.

TOP: Henry, a friend's color-coordinated beagle, strikes a pose in the new galley-plan kitchen.



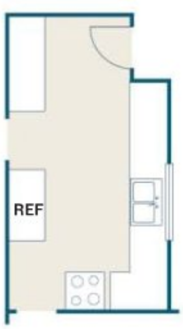
A custom mosaic backsplash over the range is the drop-jaw focal point of the kitchen. Tineke designed the exuberant pattern using Carrara marble tiles.



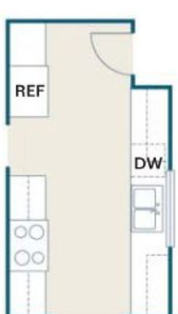
RIGHT: An undermount sink makes for easy clean up; its bridge-style faucet adds a traditional accent to this otherwise modern kitchen.

BELOW: The old laminate countertops and painted wood cabinets were worn and out of date.





BEFORE
The original kitchen had an awkwardly placed stove and narrow passage to the dining room.



AFTER
The new galley plan has plenty of elbow room, better flow—plus a lot more style.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

When Tineke Triggs and her husband, Will, decided to sell their rental property in San Francisco's Cow Hollow neighborhood, they knew they'd need to renovate before any buyer would take a second look. The owner of her own interior design firm, Artistic Designs for Living, Tineke had designed dozens of dashing kitchens and baths—for clients. Now it was time to set her sights a little closer to home. Well, at lot closer.

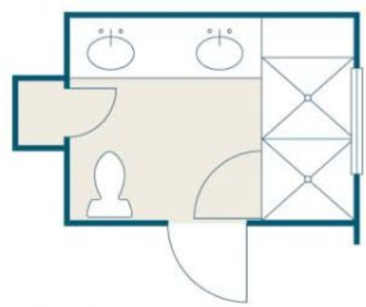
"We wanted to update it, but keep the look somewhat traditional," Tineke says of her flat in a 1920s Edwardian-style townhouse. First she shifted the 8×16-foot kitchen's original layout, from L-shaped to galley style, for efficiency. She chose sleek, stainless steel appliances and flush inset doors on ebony-stained custom cabinetry. The new oak-plank floor was stained a coffee color, to blend in with the existing wood floors in the rest of the home. For a classic touch, Tineke specified smooth, Carrara marble countertops.

The designer has grown weary of all-white kitchens. "I try to steer clients toward color," she says. "Warm khaki, or blues and grays. And I prefer clean, bright colors, such as celery." Here, she chose the restrained drama of black, and a stunning ruffles-and-flourishes patterned mosaic for the backsplash.



LEFT: A large, translucent window in the shower allows diffused sunlight, while ensuring privacy. Spalike comforts and amenities include corner shelving, to keep toiletries tidy, and a built-in bench.

OPPOSITE: The walnut vanity is a fine bit of furniture-making, with a coordinating mirrored medicine cabinet above. The slatted platform below smartly slides out, providing sink access for the kids, who can't yet reach the faucets.



AFTER
The designer fit a whole lot of luxury in a modest 9×6-foot space that was once part of a garage/workshop.

what was done

- **RECONFIGURED** the kitchen floor plan from a cramped L-shape to a wide-open galley style
- **STAINED** the kitchen cabinets black for a sophisticated, urban look
- **INSTALLED** oak hardwood flooring planks in the new kitchen to relate to the rest of the rooms in the 80-year-old townhouse
- **TRANSFORMED** a neglected ground-floor storage room/workshop into a master bedroom suite and backyard garden
- **BUILT** a custom walnut bathroom vanity that's high on style and big on storage

But the kitchen redo was merely cosmetic, compared to the major construction required in building a new, ground-floor master suite off the back of the house. Tineke removed a first-floor closet to make way for a stairwell that leads to the formerly unfinished garage. There she built a peaceful bedroom and bathroom suite that opens to a serene backyard garden.

In the 9×6-foot master bath, compact but luxe, Tineke created a spalike atmosphere. There's a double-sink vanity and a walk-in shower, equipped with two rain-style showerhead fixtures. "I wanted this space to feel as grand as possible, and more contemporary than the rest of the house," she says.

Tineke's specialty is mixing materials. For the vanity, she combined walnut wood with a ½-inch-thick, back-painted glass counter and a pair of low-profile white porcelain vessel sinks. The smart design looks super stylish, with ample storage below that she says "feels really light and open." A matching slatted step-up platform slides out to make the 36-inch-tall vanity and vessel sinks accessible to small children.

Hexagonal Carrara marble floor tiles echo the counters in the kitchen. The walls are gray limestone. "I wanted the space to feel clean and sleek," Tineke says, "like the Zen feeling of the garden." ■

FLOOR PLAN: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ





Among the many green elements in this welcoming, east-facing kitchen is sunlight itself. Raising the ceiling and removing a former wall dividing the kitchen from the family room made the space feel much larger. So did containing countertop clutter in well-planned cabinets and garages for bulky items.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



Sunny Forecast

A friendly, family kitchen that really works

Written by **Kim Waller**
Photographs by **David Duncan Livingston**
Styling by **Julie Maldonado**

When Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti and her husband, Ram, an emergency-room physician, set out to renovate their 1950s ranch style house in Menlo Park, California, the outdated and cramped kitchen needed some TLC—and some corrective surgery. The new, improved version is smart, symmetrical and classically clean in layout, and hyper-efficient with a place for everything, and everything in its place.

Because of their commitment to living an environmentally conscious life, the Durisetis chose to work with Scott Martin, a San Francisco designer who shares the couple's passion for earth-friendly materials and energy-saving design. And so their kitchen's beauty is more than skin deep.

The space had a "chopped-up layout," Kristin says. First, they took down walls to open it up to the family room, removed a built-in nook, raised the ceiling to the rafters, punched in a pair of skylights and centered



A smaller window in the original kitchen was replaced by a grand one, 10-foot long, and new skylights. The backsplash is now the same coral-red granite as the countertops.



Hidden treasures of the new kitchen include a compact work station tucked in a cabinet. Doors swing back, and the wood shelf slides out.

what was done

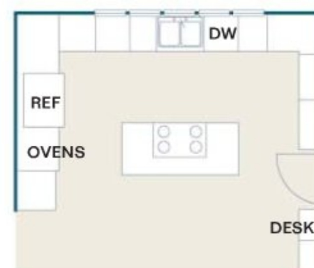
- **REMOVED** a 1950s-era wall that cut the room in two, in order to open the kitchen to the family room
- **RAISED** the ceiling to the rafters to create an airy, spacious feeling in the one-story house
- **CENTERED** the flow of family activity around a versatile cooktop island, and installed an in-counter retracting down-draft vent to preserve the open feeling of the space
- **REPURPOSED** wood to make the oak floors and built cabinets with wood from managed forests
- **SAVED** energy with a microwave/convection oven, fluorescent lights and new water heating system
- **INSTALLED** solar panels on the roof to self-generate a portion of the family's energy supply



In this family of four, both parents like to cook but neither likes countertop clutter. The blender parks in a deep appliance garage whose door swings up. Another is at the opposite end of the long counter.



BEFORE
Walled off from the family room, the old 15×17-foot kitchen was both lonely and inefficient.



AFTER
When an island replaced the wall, the family gained a spacious place for meals and after-school chats.



How to vent a grill without an overhead hood that would block sight lines? The answer is a 10-inch downdraft vent that rises from the counter when needed.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

a 10-foot-wide window over the sink countertop. Bad bones corrected, and recovering from surgery, the kitchen was now ready for detailed treatments.

Although now essentially still the same size as the original, the 12×17-foot room feels much larger with the addition of all that symmetry and light. And so there's room for a new island where the couple's children, ages 3 and 9, can gather with Mom and Dad. "The countertop's 18-inch overhang was made deep enough for my husband's knees," says Kristin. The cooktop is centered there, and rather than spoil the clean sight lines and garden views, Martin suggested an unobtrusive, 10-inch retractable down vent system that tucks away when not in use.

To eliminate off-gassing of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the cabinet cases contain no formaldahyde. The floor is reclaimed red oak. Only water-based paints were used. On-demand instant water-heating systems deliver warm water for dishes and nearly-boiling water for tea, without the need to heat resting water.

Many amenities are neatly out of sight. The free-standing fridge now appears built in, framed by 27-inch-deep cabinets for bulk storage, and flanked by wall-mounted ovens. There are large utility cupboards to hold the big stuff like a rice maker and food processor, roll-out bins for sorting recyclables, and pull-out laptop stations.

The result is a hardworking, orderly space that perfectly suits the lively family that enjoys it. ■

{resources}

Buying Guide

Before & After

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Designer, Stonehouse, Inc.

Sustainable in Maine

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Architect, Richard Renner, Richard Renner Architects. ***Windows***, Accurate-Dorwin. ***Radiant subfloor***, Warmboard, Inc. ***Foam insulation***, Corbond. ***Bamboo Plyboo plywood***, Smith & Fong Plyboo. ***Doors***, Humabilt. ***Birch flooring***, MooseWood Flooring, through Atlantic Hardwoods. ***Paint***, Aura, Benjamin Moore. ***Cellulose insulation***, Nu-Wool, through Warmtech Solutions. ***Modular vegetated roof***, Weston Green-Grid.
Page 46: Sofa, Crate & Barrel. ***Black leather chairs***, Sedia.
Page 48: ***Counters***, PaperStone, through Maine Green Building Supply. ***Dining table*** and ***chairs***, Sedia.
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Serene on the Coast

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Garden Fresh

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General contractor, Aran Construction. ***Architect***, Joe Eisner, Eisner Design, LLC. ***Decorator***, Jana Manning, Manning Design Group.
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- ❑ 207
- ❑ 208

Faucets & Sinks
- ❑ 250
- ❑ 251
- ❑ 252
- ❑ 253
- ❑ 254
- ❑ 255
- ❑ 256
- ❑ 257

Bathroom Fixtures
- ❑ 303
- ❑ 304
- ❑ 305
- ❑ 306

Water Filtration
- ❑ 350

Flooring
- ❑ 400
- ❑ 401
- ❑ 402
- ❑ 403

Heating & Cooling
- ❑ 451
- ❑ 452
- ❑ 453

Pools, Spas, Saunas, & Hot Tubs
- ❑ 501

Ceilings & Lighting Fixtures
- ❑ 552
- ❑ 553

Sewing/ Vacuums
- ❑ 601

Decorating Accessories
- ❑ 652
- ❑ 653

Gardening/ Landscaping/ Outdoor Furniture
- ❑ 702
- ❑ 703

Paint/Stain Deck/Siding
- ❑ 751
- ❑ 752
- ❑ 753
- ❑ 754
- ❑ 755

Building & Remodeling
- ❑ 801

Send me all free listings in the following categories.

149. Windows / Doors
199. Kitchens Appliances
249. Cabinets / Countertops
299. Faucets / Sinks
349. Bathroom Fixtures
449. Flooring
499. Heating / Cooling
549. Pools/Spas/Saunas/Hot Tubs
599. Ceiling & Lighting Fixtures
699. Decorating Accessories
749. Gardening/Landscaping/ Outdoor Furniture
799. Paint/Stain/Deck/Siding

Priced Literature check numbers corresponding to items in this listing

Kitchen Appliances
❑ 153 **$5.00**

Bathroom Fixtures
❑ 301 **$2.00**
❑ 302 **$2.00**

Ceilings & Lighting Fixtures
❑ 551 **$1.00**

Decorating Accessories
❑ 651 **$2.00**

Gardening/Landscape/Outdoor Furniture
❑ 701 **$2.00**

TOTAL__________

(Insert amount on order form below)

Please answer these questions so that we may better serve your needs.

Are you planning to: (check all that apply)	If so, in how many months:				What will be included: (check all that apply)	
(01) Build	Build	(04) 0-3	(05) 4-6	(06) 7+	(13) Kitchen Remodel	(16) Flooring
(02) Remodel	Remodel	(07) 0-3	(08) 4-6	(09) 7+	(14) Bathroom Remodel	(17) Paint/Wallpaper
(03) Decorate	Decorate	(10) 0-3	(11) 4-6	(12) 7+	(15) Windows	(18) Major Appliances

Name ____________________________________

Address ____________________________________

City____________________ State______Zip____________

e-mail address ______________________________

Phone ______________________________(optional)

Enclosed: (check or money order)

$__________ Priced Literature Items

Credit Card Information

Number____________________________________

Expiration Date__________

Signature____________________________________

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Buying Guide continued from page 94

Ceiling fan, G2Art.
Page 64: *Poolside cabana material*, Blue Star Mahogany, Riverhead Building Supply Company. ***Dining table***, Eisner Design. ***Metal frame fabrication***, Millennium Steel. ***Umbrella***, Crate & Barrel. ***Built-in barbecue***, Fire Magic.
Page 65: *Pavers*, Porphory, ABC Worldwide Stone. ***Planter walls*** and ***fireplace cladding***, Cultured Stone. ***Paint***, Benjamin Moore. ***Windows*** and ***doors***, Marvin. ***Door latch hardware***, Omnia.

Opening Up the Box
Pages 66–75:

Architect, Yianni Doulis, Yianni Doulis Architecture Studio. ***Designer***, Jessica Helgerson, Jessica Helgerson Interior Design.
Page 66: *Window-seat cushion fabric*, Beads in Green Bean; ***armchair cushions***, Hable Construction. ***Standing lamp***, Kai Z floor lamp by Kenneth Cobonpue, through Hive. ***Glass pendants***, Pod, Niche Modern. ***Rug***, Abaca, Ikea. ***Ornaments***, Smith & Hawken. ***Wrapping paper***, Snow & Graham.
Pages 68-69: *Dining chairs*, Brno by Mies van der Rohe, through Knoll. ***Pendant light***, Jasper/S1, Lightology.
Pages 70-71: *Cabinet paint*, White Opulence OC-69, Benjamin Moore. ***Pendant lights***, Aquatinta, Michele de Lucchi. ***Bar stools***, Onda, Stua. ***Silver vases***, West Elm.
Page 72: *Wallpaper*, Blackbird in White, Cavern Home.
Page 73: *Rug*, Pottery Barn. ***Silver vases***, West Elm.
Page 74: *Pendant light*, Le Klint. ***Shelf unit***, West Elm. ***White chair***, TomVac by Ron Arad, through Vitra.
Page 75: *Wall paint*, Flowering Herbs, Benjamin Moore. ***Stencils***, Blik. ***Bed***, ***lamp*** and ***linens***, Ikea. ***Nightstand***, Modulicious, Blu Dot.

Almost Grown Up
Pages 76-79:

Designer, Joanne B. Hans, A Perfect Placement.
Pages 76–77: *Bed*, ***side tables***, ***dresser*** and ***round mirror***, Portobello Home collection, Drexel Heritage. ***Zebra chair***, HomeGoods. ***Bedside lamps***, Pottery Barn. ***Black-and-white pillowcase***, Solid Border Bedding, Williams-Sonoma Home. ***Pink pillowcases*** and ***duvet cover***, PBteen. ***Zebra rug***, Pottery Barn Kids. ***Shade fabric***, Clipper White, Brandywine. Fabrication, Apple Interiors. ***Wallpaper***, Toile de Joy, Fairwinds. ***Wall paint***, Pure White #7005; Tricor Black #6258, Sherwin-Williams.
Page 77: *Window seat pillow fabric*, Citrus and Primrose, Brandywine. ***Cushion***, Dorothy Polka Dot, Calico Corners.
Page 78: *Lamps*, Marshall's.
Page 79: *Desk*, Bedford Project Table, Pottery Barn. ***Bookshelf accessories***, HomeGoods.

Red Zinger
Pages 80–83:

Interior designer/architect, Kathleen Monroe, Kathleen Monroe Design. ***Contractor***, RC Wilson Construction.
Pages 80–81: *Cabinets*, Maple finished in Matte Antique White with Recessed Panel Door Style, Columbia Cabinets; ***soft close on drawers and doors***, Blum; and ***cabinet handles***, Bauerware; purchased from Floorcraft in San Francisco. ***Backsplash***, Erin Adams Zen Weave, Ann Sacks. ***Backsplash edging***, Ceramic Flat Liners in Espresso, from Ceramic Tile Design. ***Countertop***, Honed Black Granite, Integrated Resources Group. ***Paint***, Benjamin Moore. ***Range***, Wolf. ***Range hood***, Vent-A-Hood. ***Microwave***, GE. ***Dimmable fluorescent cans*** and ***low-voltage cans***, Juno; ***undercabinet lighting***, WAC; ***dimmer switches***, Lutron; all from City Lights Lighting Showroom. ***Pendant***, Meridian, 2Modern.
Pages 82–83: *Refrigerator*, JennAir. ***Sink***, Franke. ***Dishwasher***, Asko. ***Built-in soap dispenser***, Blanco.

Formal with a Flourish
Pages 84–89:

Architect, Tineke Triggs, Artistic Designs for Living.
Pages 84–87: *Range*, Bertazzoni. ***Range hood***, Broan. ***Dishwasher***, Bosch. ***Sink***, Blanco. ***Faucet***, Franke. ***Backsplash tile***, Bianco Carrara, Ann Sacks. ***Backsplash mosaic*** (behind range), Deco, Walker Zanger. ***Countertop***, Carrara Eased Edge, Elegant Marble & Granite. ***Cabinetry***, JR's Woodworks. ***Paint***, C2 #8266, Vancouver Day.
Pages 88–89: *Sinks*, Lacava. ***Rain showerhead***, Hansgrohe. ***Hotel shelf***, ***toilet-paper holder***, ***shelf above vanity*** and ***shower shelves***, Ginger: all through DJ Mehler. ***Custom vanity*** and ***medicine cabinets***, JR's Woodworks. ***Faucets*** and ***shower fixtures***, One, Ann Sacks. ***Glass countertop***, Paige Glass. ***Sconces***, Illuminating Experiences Elf 4, Bay Lighting & Design. ***Tile***, Ann Sacks.

Sunny Forecast
Pages 90–93:

Architect, Scott Martin, Blue Plum Design.
Pages 90–93: *Cabinets*, Nickels Custom Cabinets. ***Cooktop*** and ***downdraft ventilation***, Wolf. ***Sink***, Franke. ***Dishwasher***, Miele. ***Convection oven/microwave***, Dacor. ***Oven***, Viking. ***Refrigerator***, LG.

Sources

ABC Worldwide Stone
718-389-8360
abcworldwidestone.com

A-Boy Supply Co
503-225-9009
aboysupply.com

Accurate-Dorwin
888-982-4640
accuratedorwin.com

Ann Sacks
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annsacks.com

Anthropologie
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aperfectplacement.com

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Artistic Designs for Living
415-567-0602
artisticdesignsforliving.com

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askousa.com

Atlantic Flooring
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Atlantic Hardwoods
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Bauerware
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bauerware.com

Bay Lighting & Design
415-552-4110

Benjamin Moore
800-344-0400
benjaminmoore.com

Bertazzoni
bertazzoni-italia.com

BFI Ltd
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Blue Plum Design Group
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G2Art.com

Hans Grohe
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hansgrohe-usa.com

Henry Calvin
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henrycalvin.com

Hive
h-i-v-e.com

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541-488-0931
humabuilt.com

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800-434-4532
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Ink & Peat
503-282-6688
inkandpeat.com

Integrated Resources Group
888-263-1543
marblecompany.com

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jennair.com

Jessica Helgerson Interior Design
503-548-4984
jhinteriordesign.com

Hable Construction
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hableconstruction.com

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junolightinggroup.com

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mitchellgold.com

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Omnia Lever Handles
973-239-7272
omniaindustries.com

Oregon Tile & Marble
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oregontileandmarble.com

Otto Baat Group LLC
ottobaat.com

Paige Glass
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360-538-9815
paperstoneproducts.com

PBteen
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pbteen.com

Pottery Barn
888-779-5176
potterybarn.com

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800-993-4923
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Pratt & Larson Tile
prattandlarson.com

Ralph Lauren Home
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rlhome.polo.com

RC Wilson Construction
415-282-4200
rcwilsonconstruction.com

Relish
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shoprelish.com

Restoration Hardware
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restorationhardware.com

Richard Renner Architects
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Riverhead Building Supply Company
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rbscorp.com

Ron Arad
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Sandkamp Woodworks
201-200-0101
sandkampwoodworks.com

School House Electric Company
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schoolhouseelectric.com

Schwartz Design Showroom
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617-451-2474
sedia.com

Select Blinds
888-257-1840
selectblinds.com

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selecthardwoodfloors.com

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sesameandlilies.com

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800-237-4277
sharpusa.com

Sherwin-Williams
sherwin-williams.com

Smith & Fong Plyboo
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plyboo.com

Stonehouse, Inc
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stonehousedesigns.com

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stonesource.com

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